James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Section 11, Pages 301 - 330

Around 1919, the Kansas State Historical Society and the American Legion solicited biographical information from returning veterans (primarily members of the 35th and 89th infantry divisions) and the families of those who died in service, notably from the Gold Star Mothers. Each veteran or family member was asked to provide letters, photographs, a biography, and military records. This file contains letters and their transcriptions from James Emerald Northrup, Company F, 110th Ammunition Train, 35th Division.

Creator: Northrup, James Emerald

Date: 1917-1921

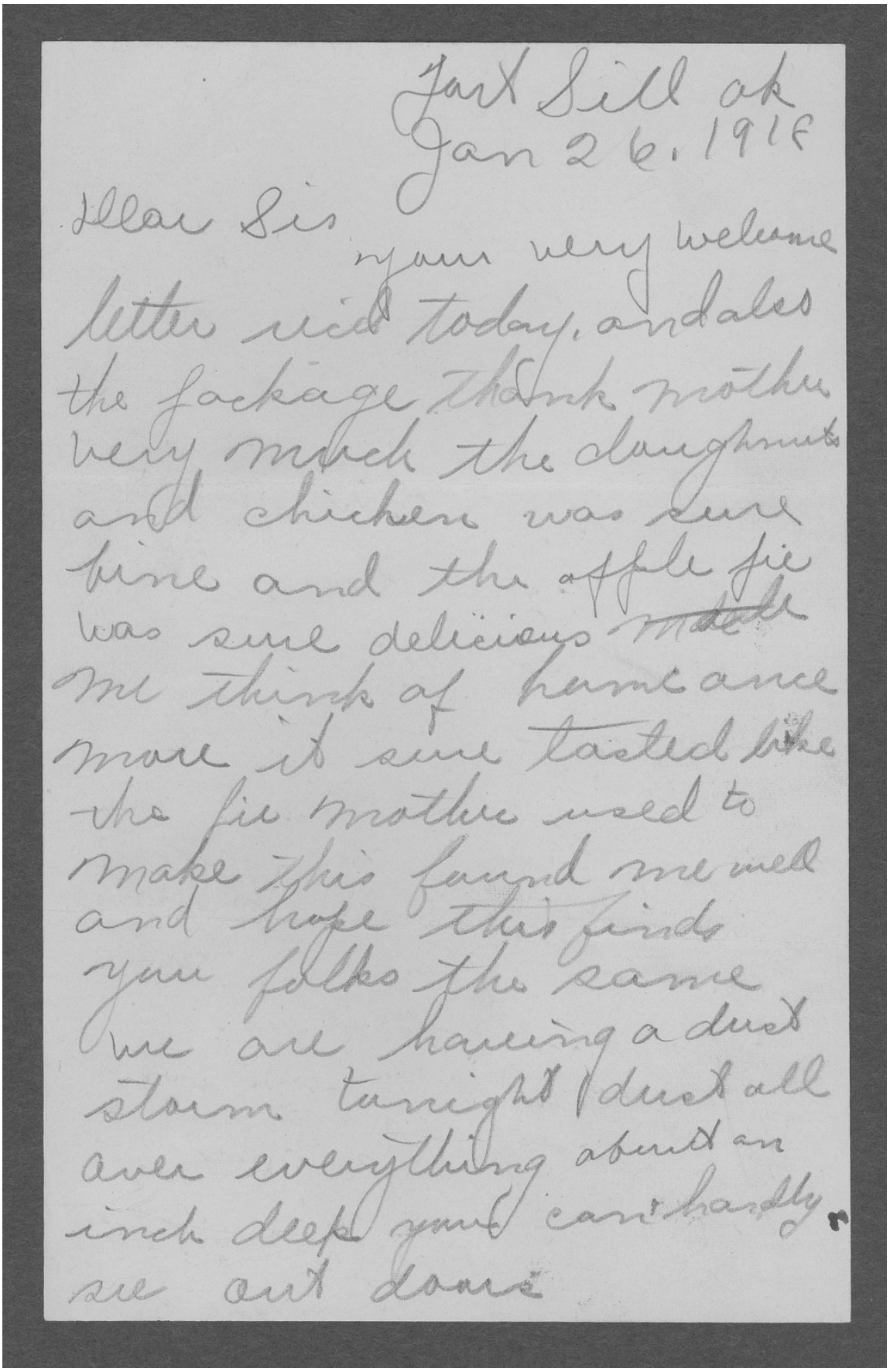
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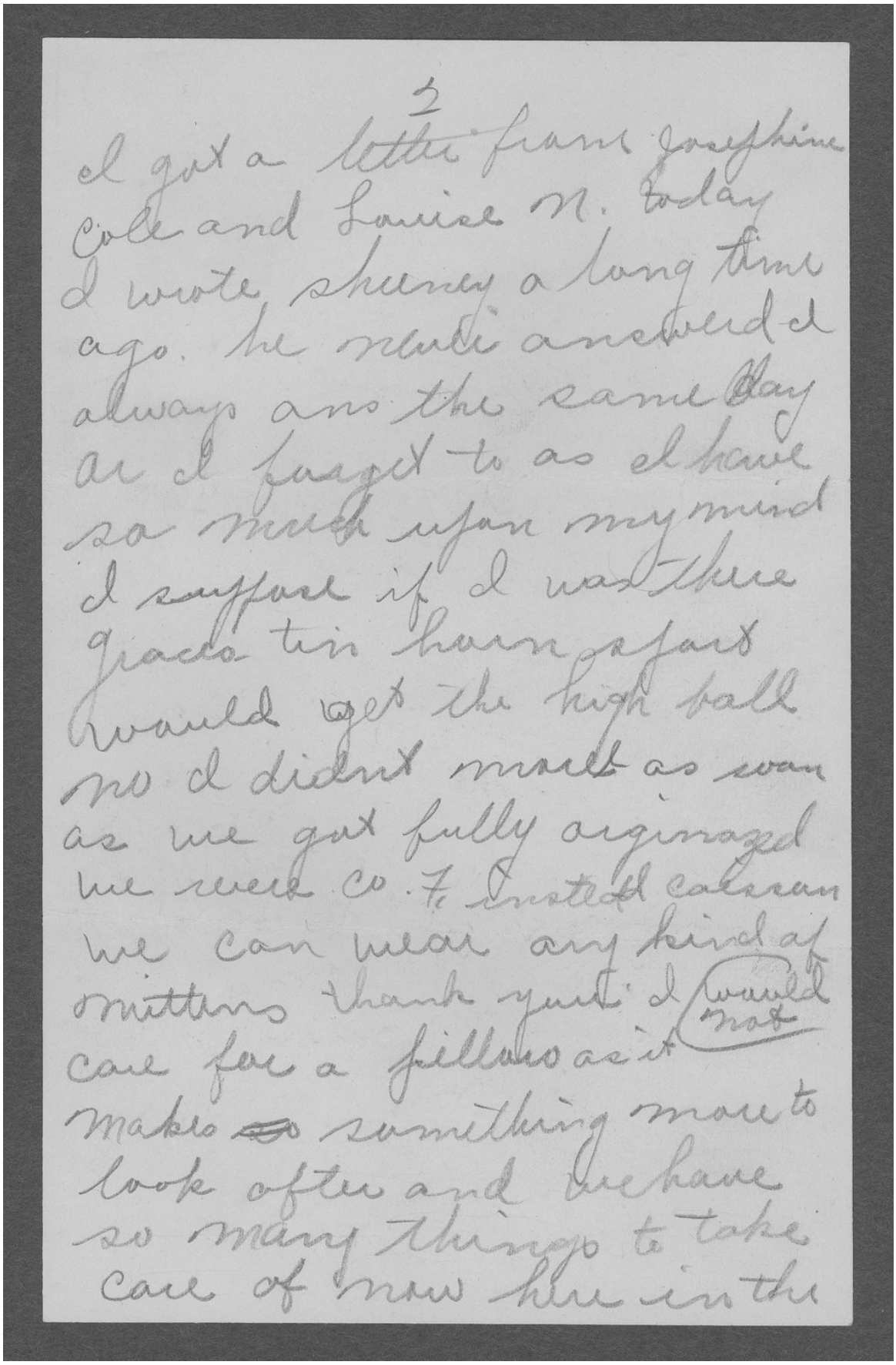
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



Fort Sill ok
Jan 26. 1918

Dear Sis

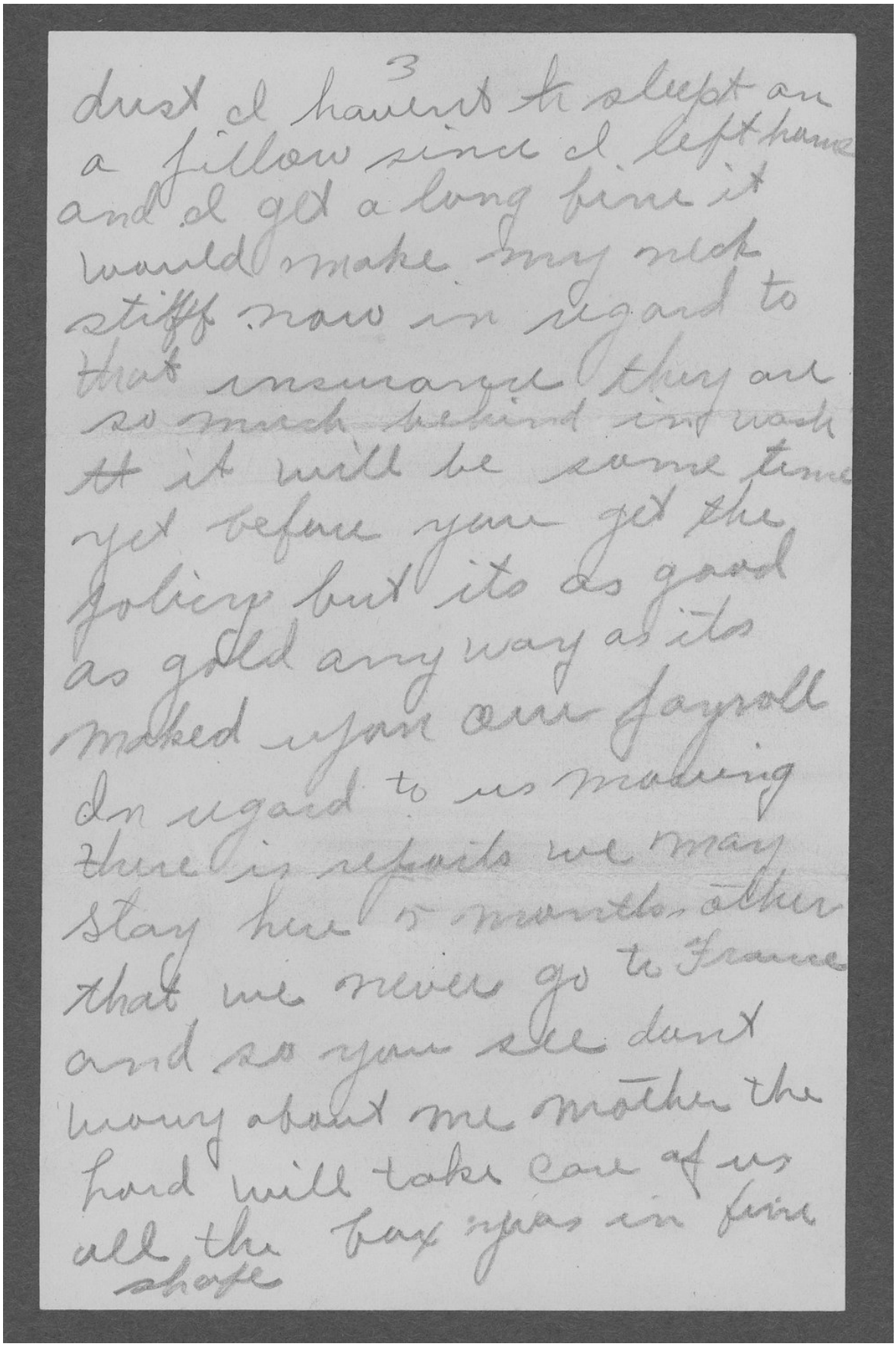
your very welcome letter recd today, and also the package thank mother very much the doughnuts and chicken was sure fine and the apple pie was sure delicious made me think of home once more it sure tasted like the pie mother used to make this found me well and hope this finds you folks the same we are having a dust storm tonight dust all over everything about an inch deep you can hardly see out doors



3

d got a letter from Josephine Cole and Louise M. today d wrote sherry a long time ago. he made answer d always ans the same day as d forgot to as d have so much upon my mind d suppose if d was there giacco tin ham gafard would get the high ball no d didnt mail as soon as we got fully orginazed we were Co. F. United Caravan we can wear any kind of mittens thank you. d would not care for a fellow as it makes something more to look after and we have so many things to take care of now here in the

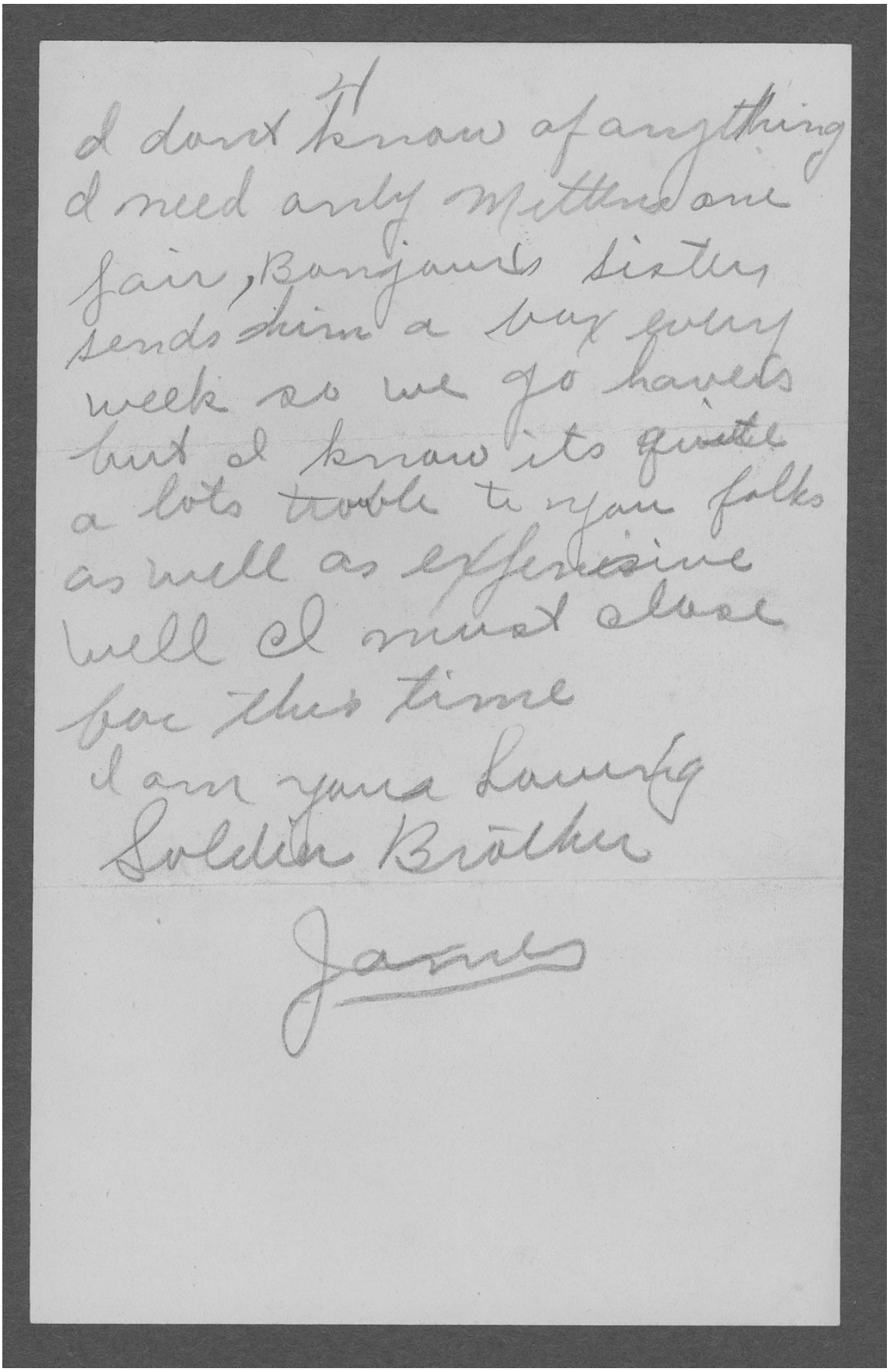
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



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dust cl haven't th slept on
a fillow since cl left home
and cl gld a long time it
would make my neck
stiff now in regard to
that insurance they are
so much behind in work
th it will be some time
yet before you get the
policy but its as good
as gold any way as its
mated upon our payroll
in regard to us making
there is reports we may
stay here 5 months after
that we never go to France
and so you see dont
worry about me mother the
lord will take care of us
all the boys is in fine
shape

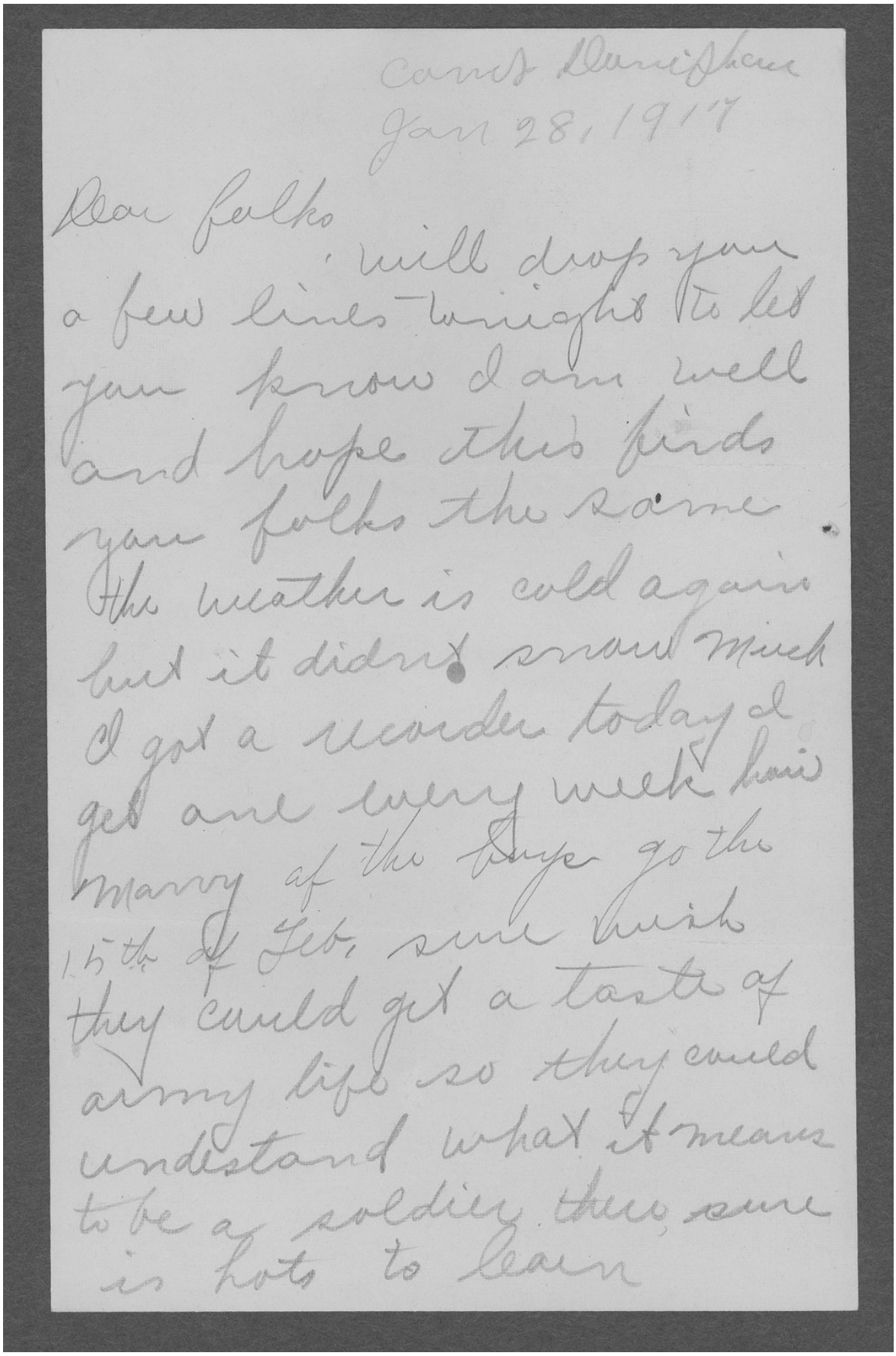
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



I dont know of anything I need only Mittens one pair, Benjamins sister sends him a box every week so we go havels but I know its quite a lots trouble to you folks as well as expensive well I must close for this time I am your Loving Soldier Brother

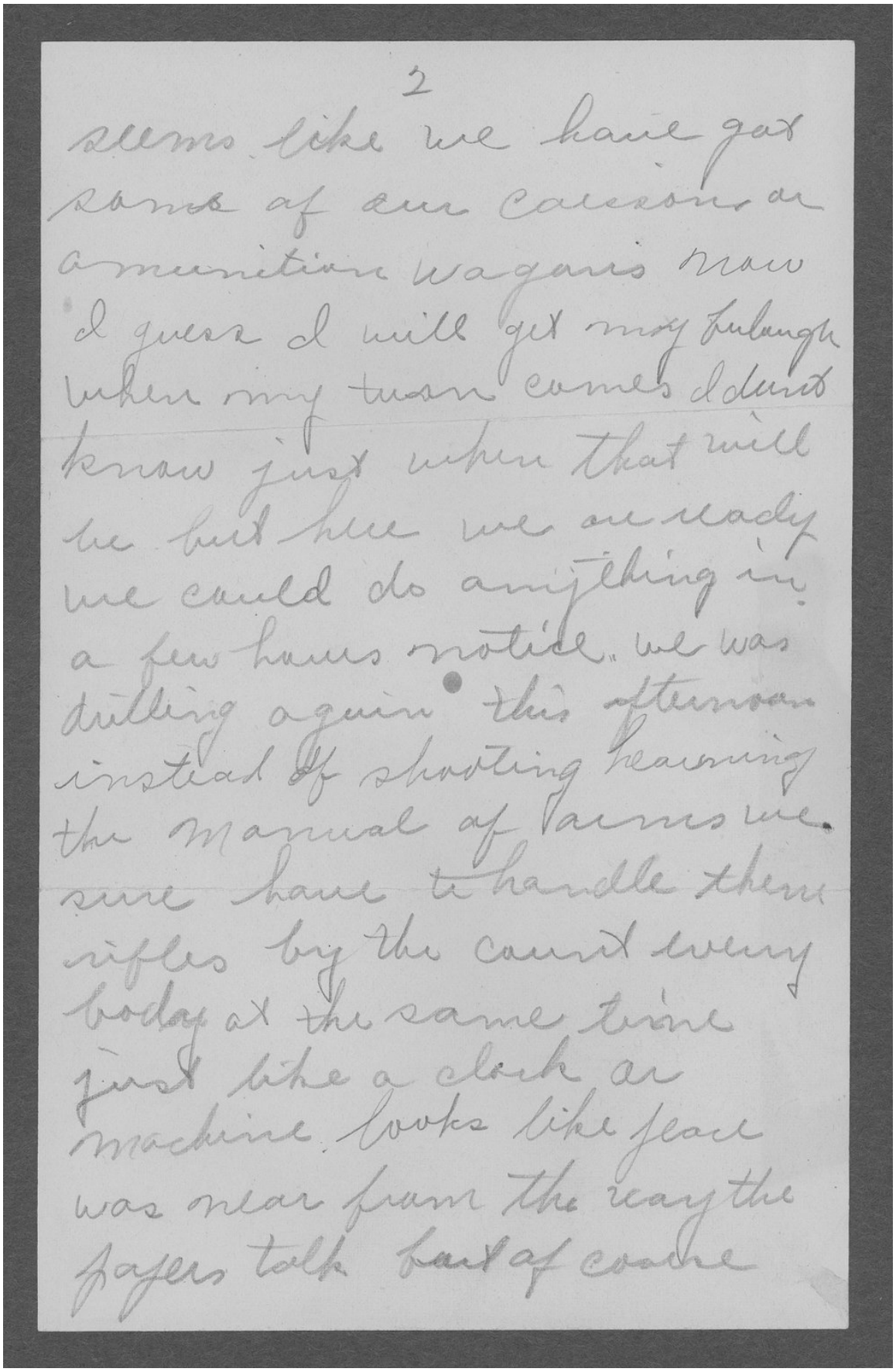
James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



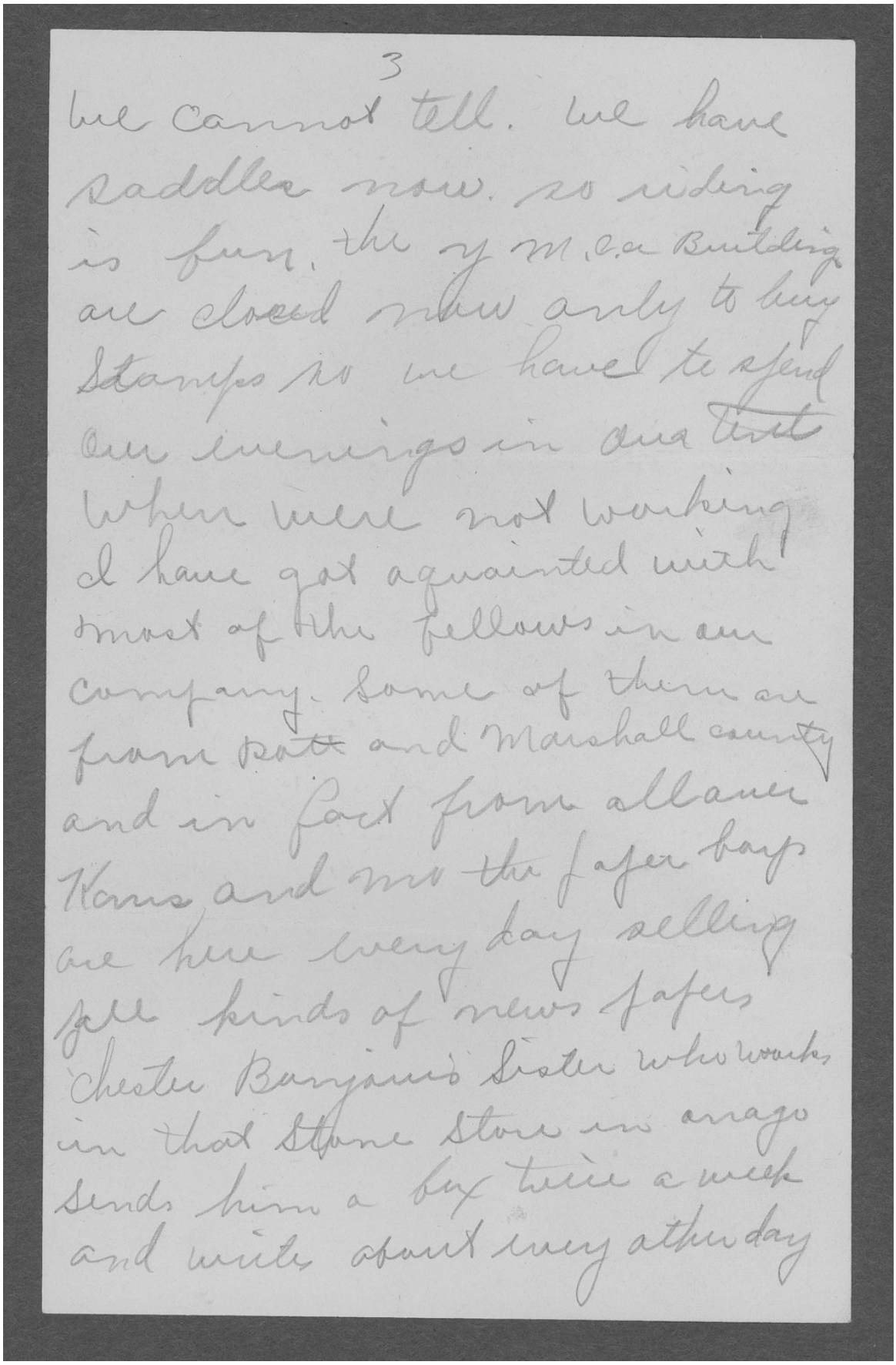
Camp Cunningham
Jan 28, 1917

Dear folks
I will drop you
a few lines tonight to let
you know I am well
and hope this finds
you folks the same
The weather is cold again
but it didn't snow much
I got a recorder today I
get one every week how
many of the boys go the
15th of Feb. sure wish
they could get a taste of
army life so they could
understand what it means
to be a soldier there sure
is lots to learn



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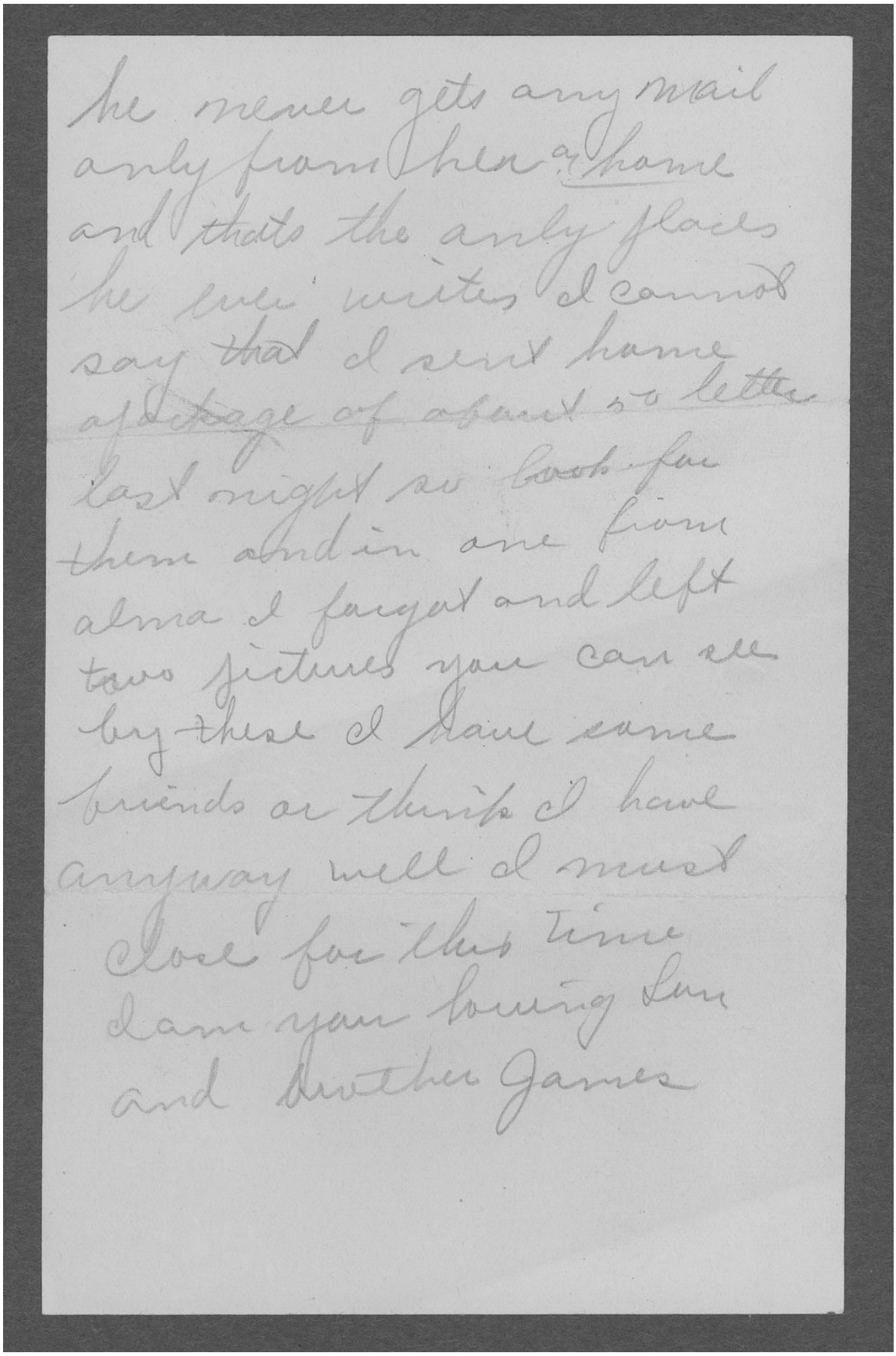
seems like we have got
some of our caisons or
ammunition wagons now
I guess I will get my furlough
when my turn comes I don't
know just when that will
be but here we already
we could do anything in
a few hours notice. We was
drilling again this afternoon
instead of shooting learning
the manual of arms we
sure have to handle them
rifles by the count every
body at the same time
just like a clock or
machine. Looks like peace
was near from the way the
fellers talk but of course



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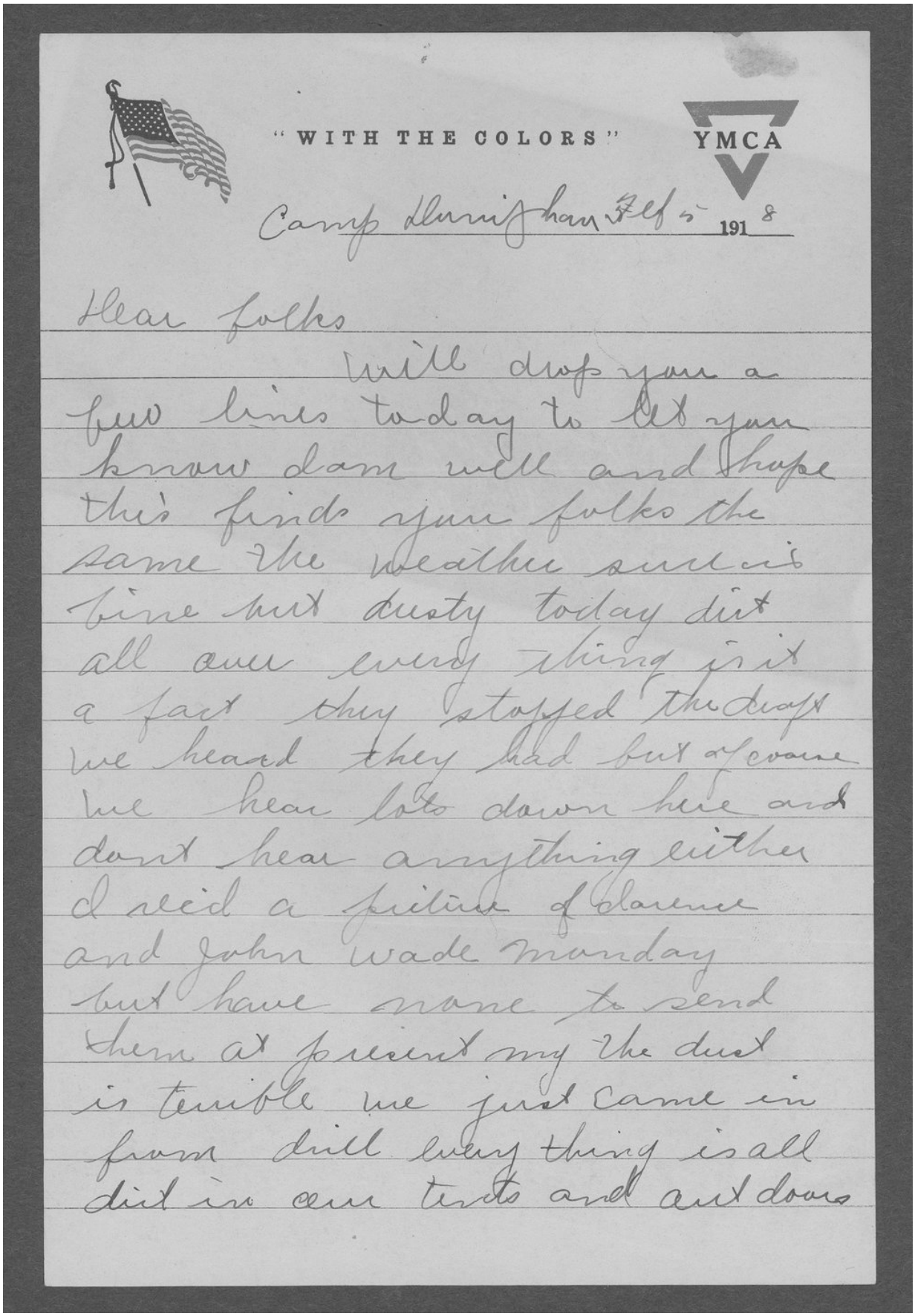
we cannot tell. we have saddles now. so riding is fun. the y m.c.a Building are closed now only to buy stamps so we have to spend our evenings in our tents when were not working I have got aquainted with most of the fellows in our company. some of them are from Pratt and Marshall county and in fact from all over Kans and so the paper boys are here every day selling all kinds of news papers Chester Benjamin's Sister who works in that Stone Store in arago sends him a box twice a week and write about every other day

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



he never gets any mail
only from her at home
and thats the only places
he ever writes I cannot
say that I sent home
a package of about 50 letter
last night we took fare
them and in one from
alma I forgot and left
two pictures you can tell
by these I have some
friends or think I have
anyway well I must
close for this time
from your loving Son
and Brother James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

Camp Dodge Iowa Sept 5 1918

Dear folks

Will drop you a few lines today to let you know dam well and hope this finds you folks the same the weather and is fine but dusty today dirt all over every thing is it a fact they stopped the draft we heard they had but of course we hear lots down here and dont hear anything either I seid a picture of Clarence and John Wade Monday but have none to send them at present my the dust is terible we just came in from drill every thing is all dirt in our tents and out doors

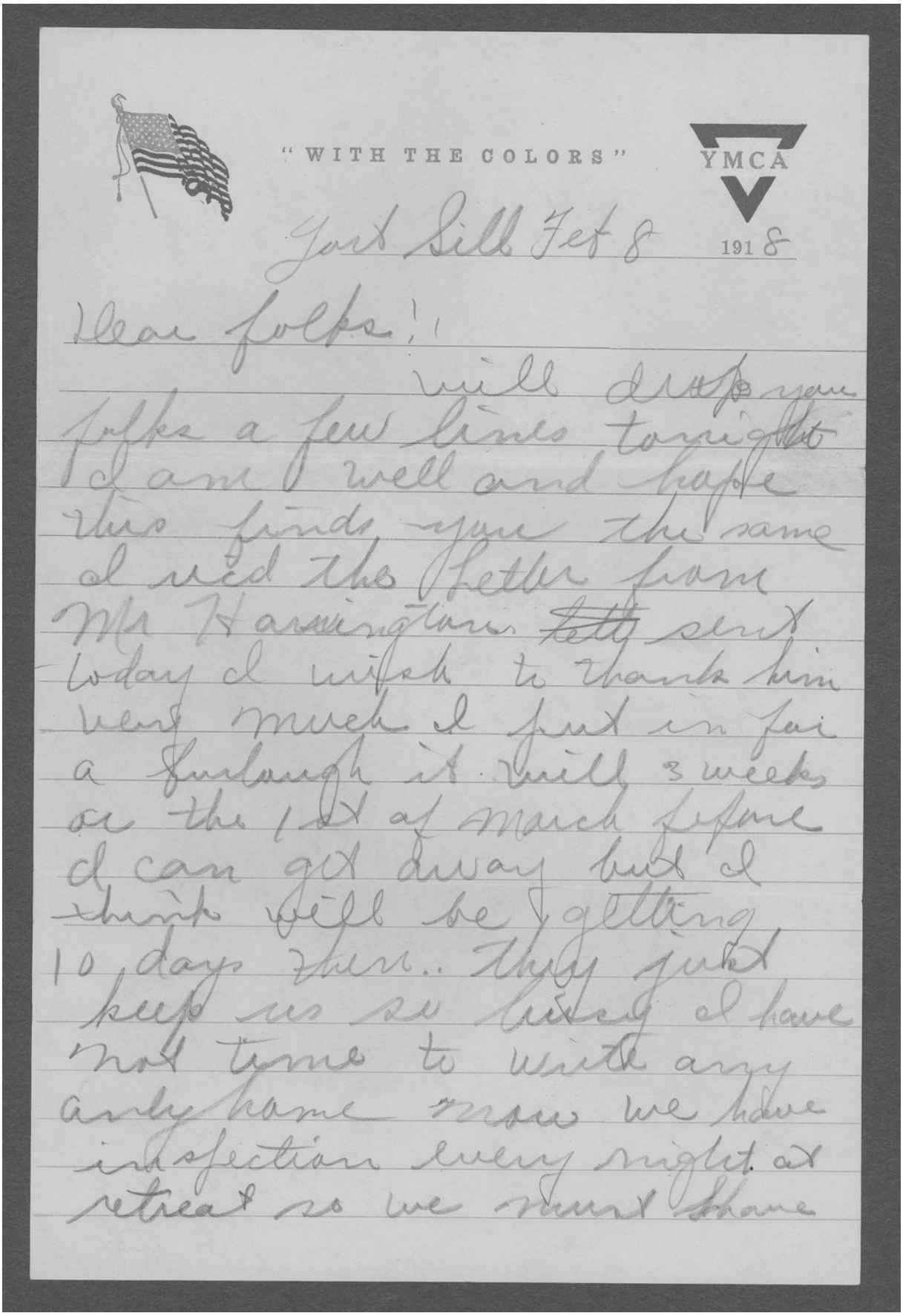
James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

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you cannot see the sun and
shaw the wind does blow all
the loose dirt flows up in drifts
like snow leaving the ground
very hard. I thank Flagg for the
calendar its just what I wanted
cora Send me one are also
I hear from mills folks quite often
they are going to live by themselves
after the 1st of march I got 5 letters
Monday so you know it keeps me
going to write about 10 per week.
Billy mills the wife said her
niece alice Lee. was taken up with
my picture and wanted it. well
I must close will write again
this week
dam your Loving Soldier Brother
James

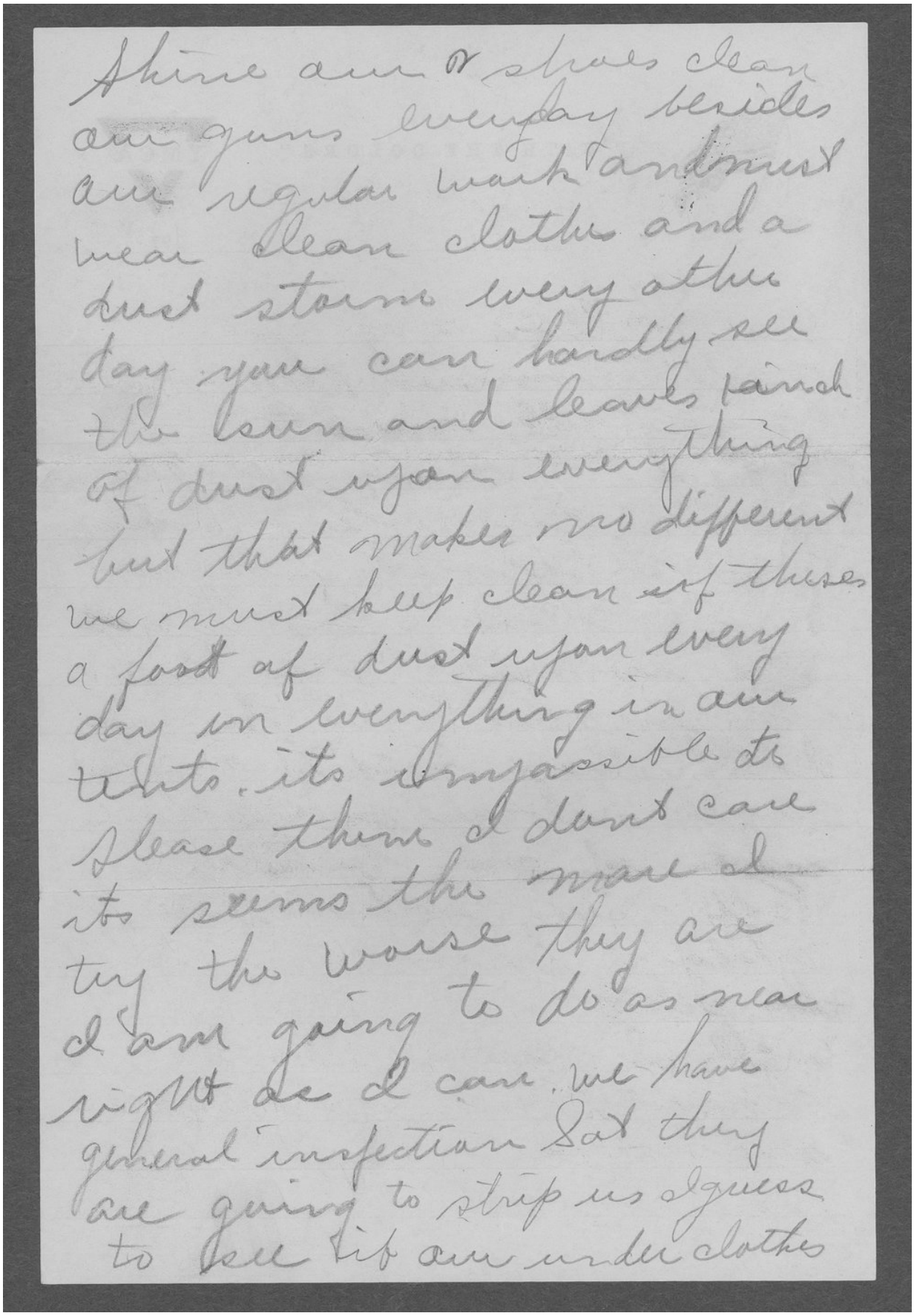


"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

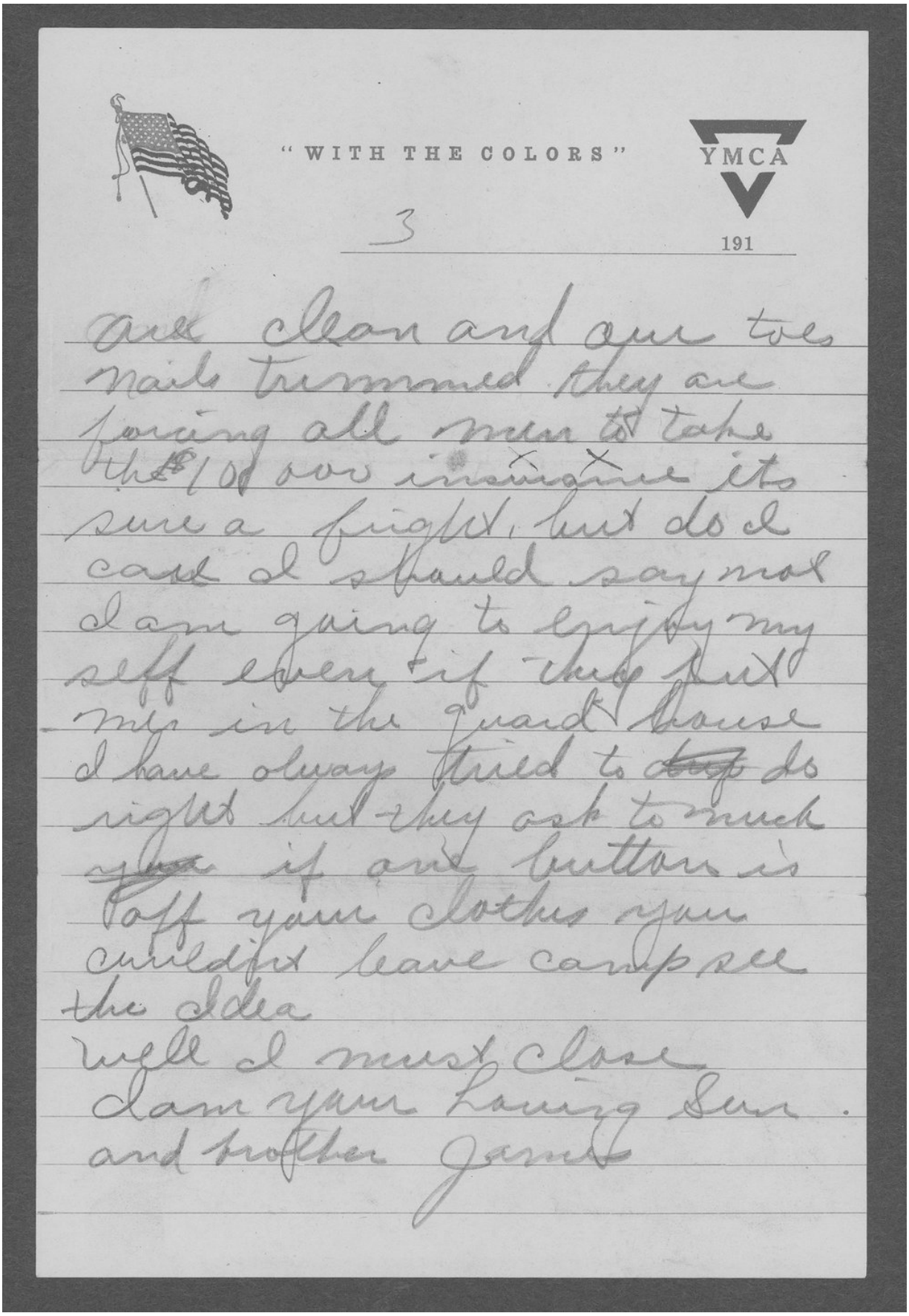
Camp Sill Feb 8 1918

Dear folks!!

will drop you folks a few lines tonight I am well and hope this finds you the same I rec'd the letter from Mr Harrington ~~Letts~~ sent today I wish to thank him very much I put in for a furlough it will 3 weeks or the 1st of march before I can get away but I think will be getting 10 days then. They just keep us so busy I have not time to write any only home now we have inspection every night at retreat so we must shave



Shine our shoes clean
our guns everyday besides
our regular walk and must
wear clean clothes and a
dust storm every other
day you can hardly see
the sun and leaves pinch
of dust upon everything
but that makes no different
we must keep clean if there's
a foot of dust upon every
day on everything in our
tents. its impossible to
please them I dont care
its seems the more I
try the worse they are
I am going to do as near
right as I can. we have
general inspection Sat they
are going to strip us I guess
to see if our under clothes



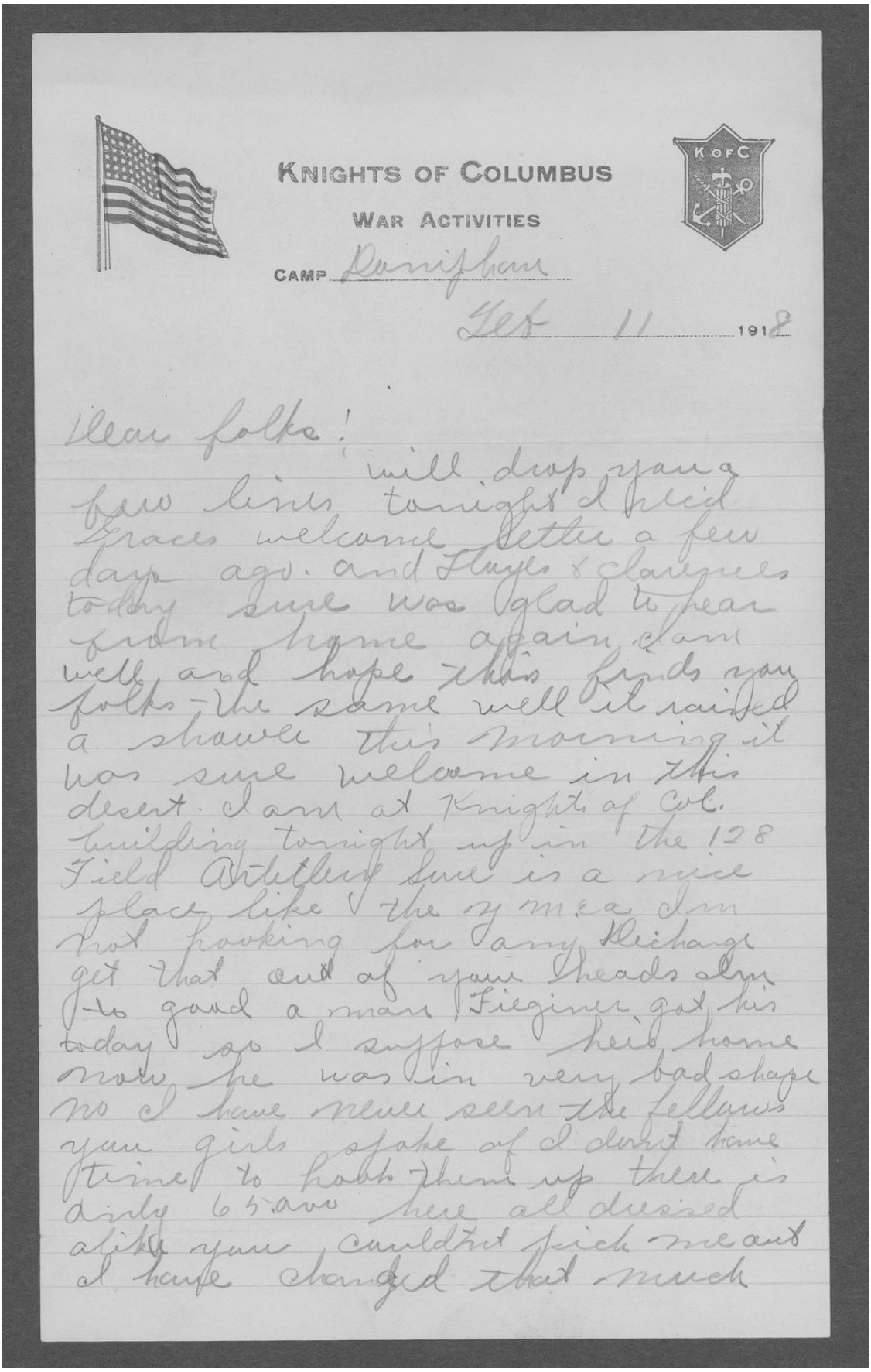
"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

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and clean and our toes
nails trimmed they are
forcing all men to take
the ~~#~~ of our inoculations its
sure a fright, but do I
care I should say not
I am going to enjoy my
self even if they put
me in the guard house
I have always tried to ~~keep~~ do
right but they ask to much
you if any button is
off your clothes your
confined leave camp see
the Idea
well I must close
Love your Loving Son.
and brother James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

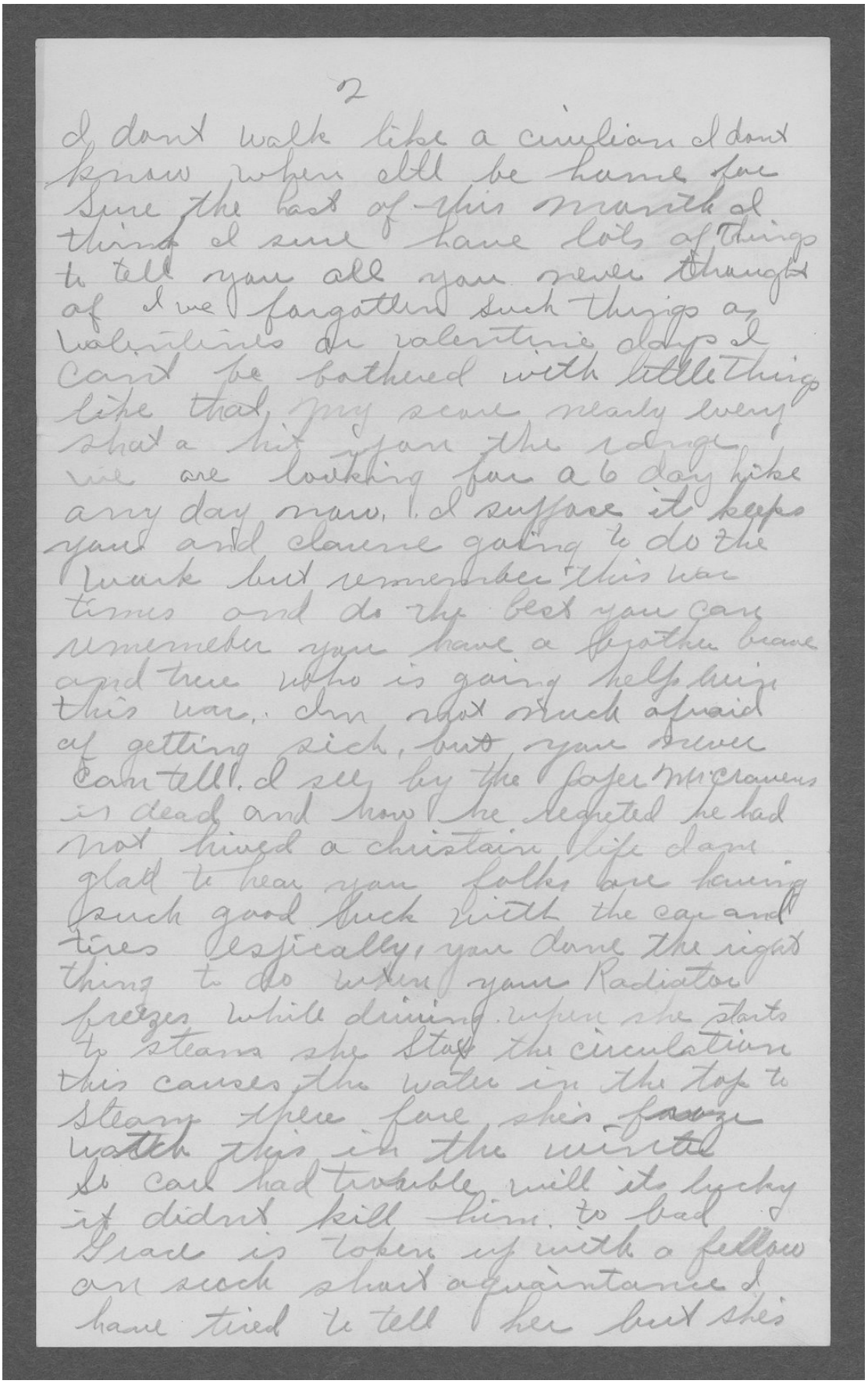


KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
WAR ACTIVITIES
CAMP Dorniphan

Oct 11 1918

Dear folks!

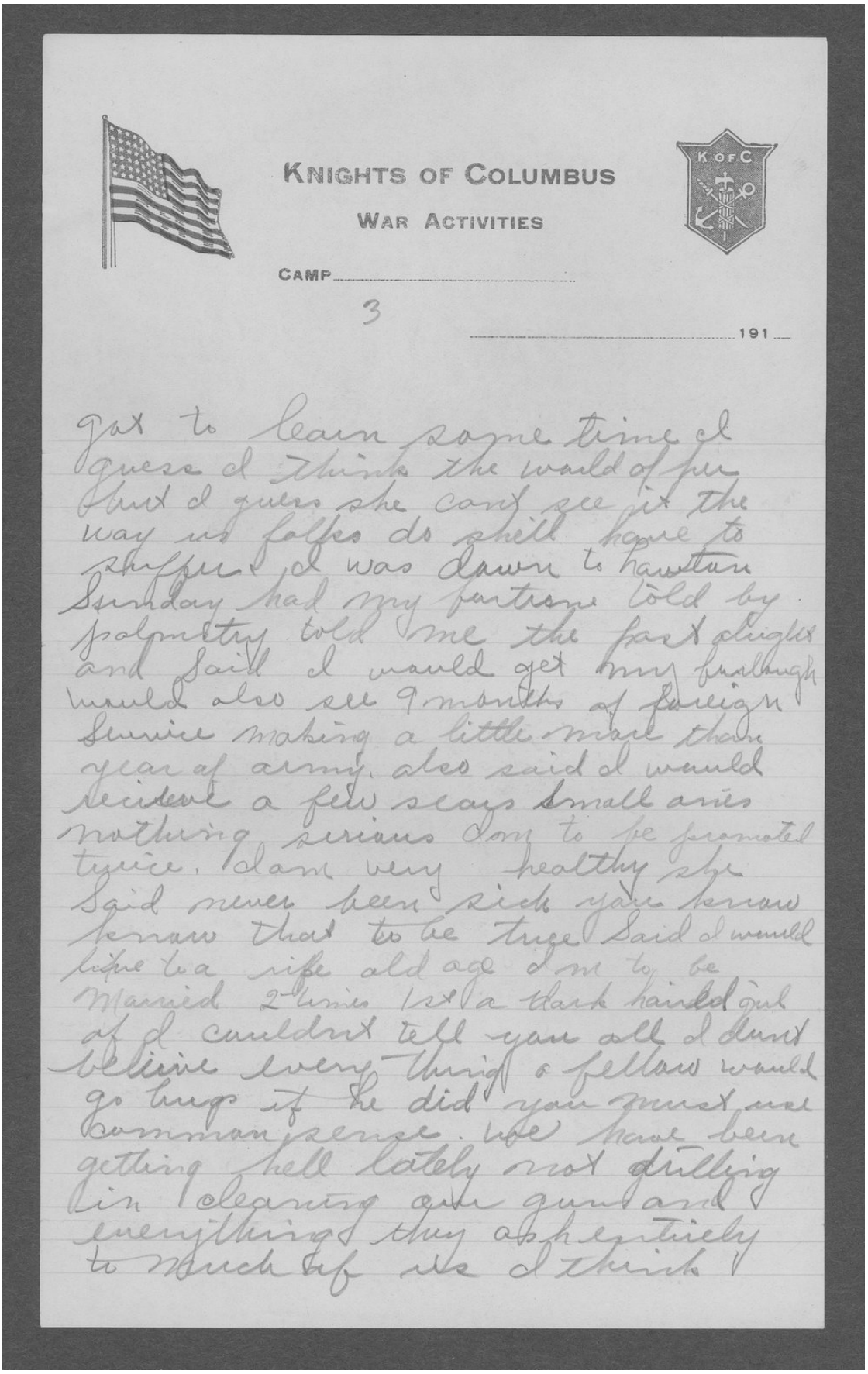
will drop you a few lines tonight I did Graces welcome letter a few days ago. and Floyds & Clarences today sure was glad to hear from home again dam well and hope this finds you folks the same well it rained a shawle this morning it was sure welcome in this desert. I am at Knights of Col. building tonight up in the 128 Field Artillery Sure is a nice place like I the sy mea Im not looking for any Kichange get that out of your heads dyn to gand a man! Fieginer got his today so I suppose he's home now he was in very bad shape no I have never seen the fellows you girls spoke of I dont have time to hobb them up there is dirty 6 5 aves here all dressed alike you couldnt pick me out I have changed that much



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I dont walk like a civilian I dont know when Ill be home for sure the last of this month of third I sure have lots of things to tell you all you never thought of I've forgotten such things as valentines or valentine days I cant be bothered with little things like that, my scare nearly every shot a hit yet the range we are looking for a 6 day hike any day now. I suppose it keeps you and Clarence going to do the work but remember this war times and do thy best you can remember you have a Fayther brave and true who is going help this war. Im not much afraid of getting sick, but you never can tell. I see by the paper Mr Grawens is dead and how he regreted he had not lived a christain life dont glad to hear you folks are having such good luck with the car and tires especially, you done the right thing to do when your Radiator freezes while driving. when she starts to steam she Stop the circulation this causes the water in the top to steam there fore, she freeze watch this in the winter so Carl had trouble will its lucky it didnt kill him. to bad Grace is taken up with a fellow are such short aquaintance I have tried to tell her but she's

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

WAR ACTIVITIES

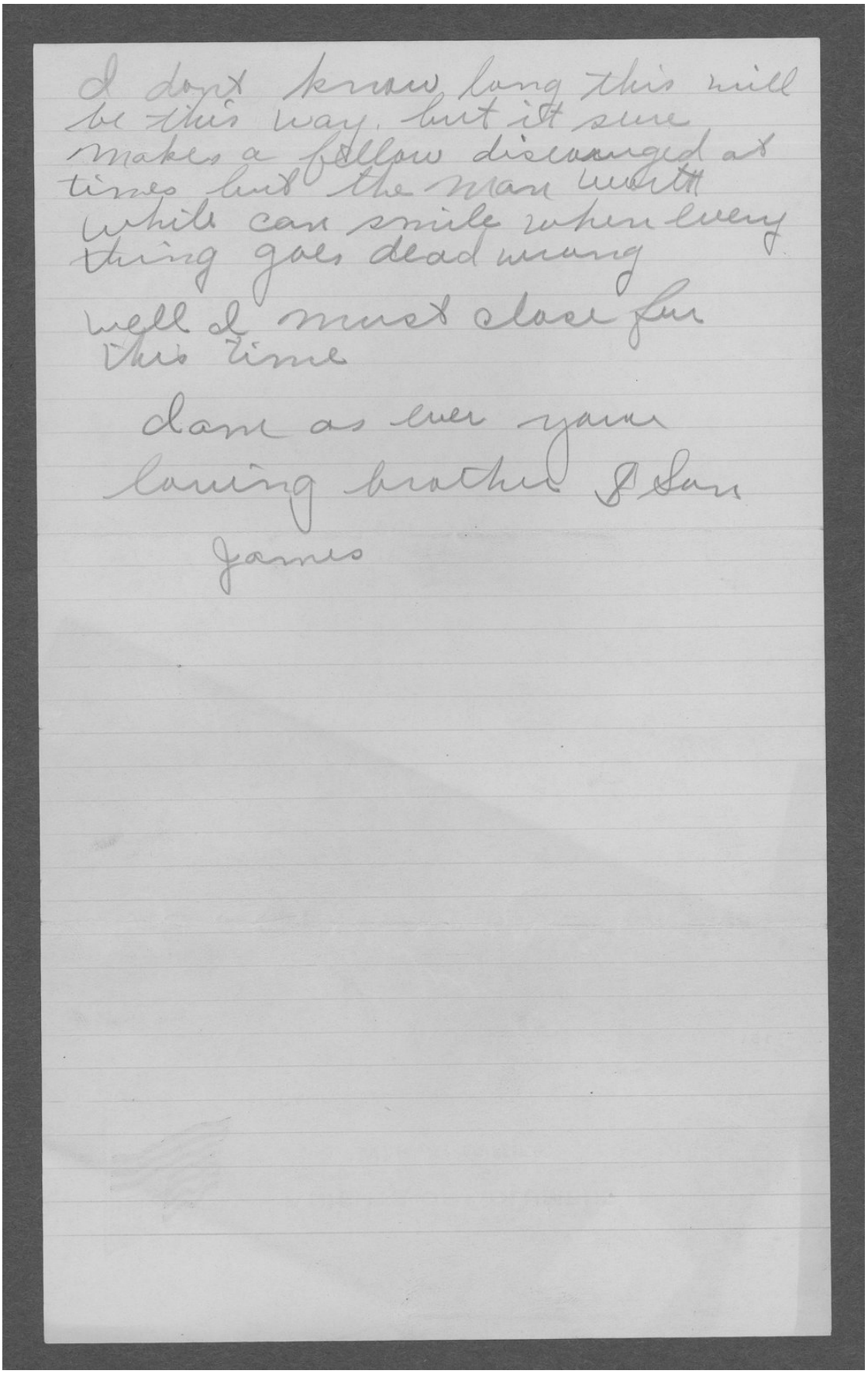
CAMP

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got to learn some time I guess I think the world of her but I guess she can't see it the way us fellas do still hope to shuffle I was down to Hawtun Sunday had my fortune told by palmistry told me the past slights and said I would get my furlough would also see 9 months of foreign service making a little more than year of army. also said I would receive a few scars small ones nothing serious don't to be promoted twice. I am very healthy she said never been sick you know know that to be true. Said I would like to a wife old age I'm to be Married 2 times 1st a dark haired girl of I couldn't tell you all I don't believe every thing a fellow would go by if he did you must use common sence. We have been getting hell lately not drilling in cleaning our guns and everything they ashe entirely to much of us I think I

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

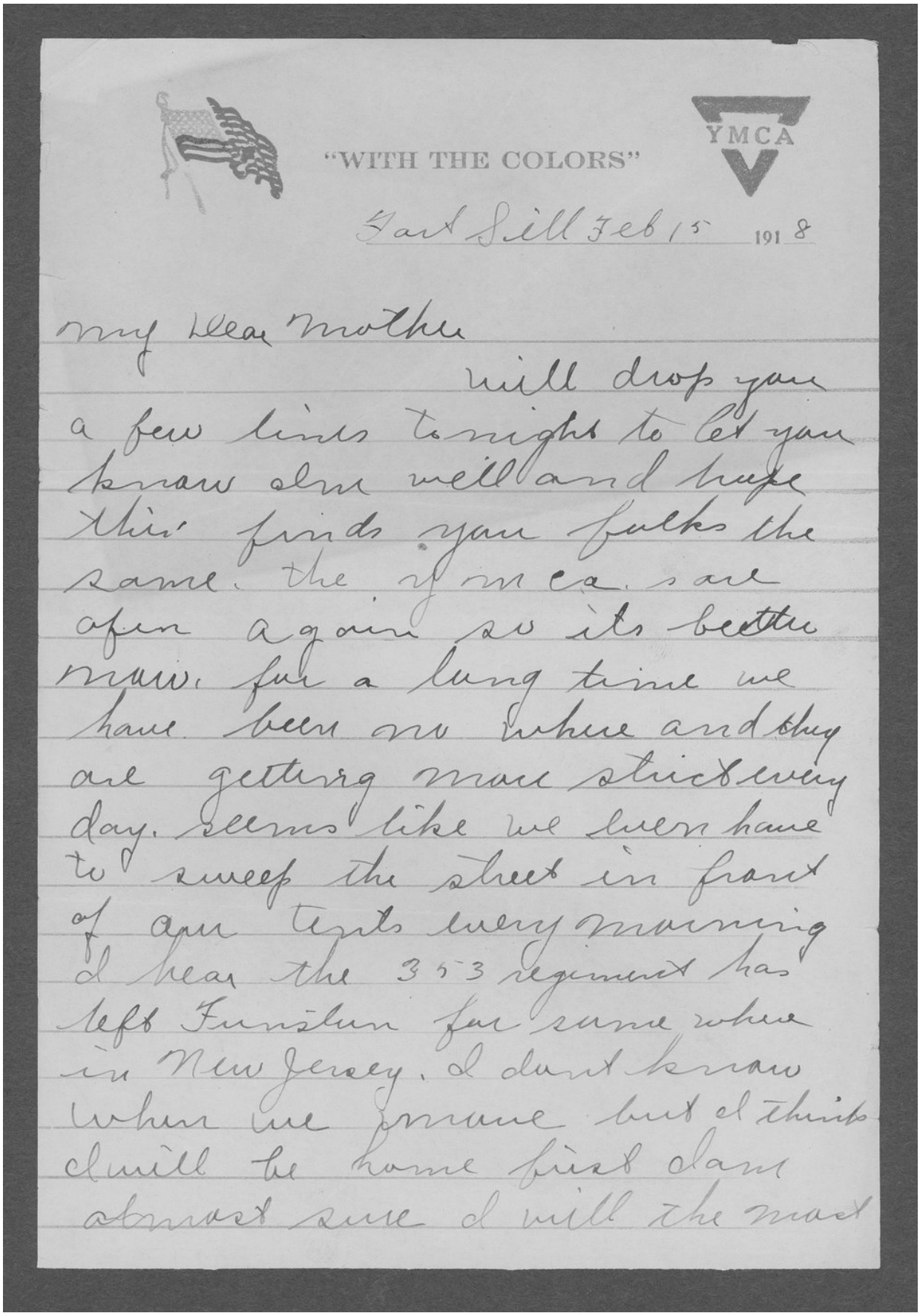


I don't know long this will be this way, but it sure makes a fellow discouraged at times but the man worth while can smile when everything goes dead wrong

Well I must close for this time

Same as ever yours
loving brother & Son
James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



"WITH THE COLORS"

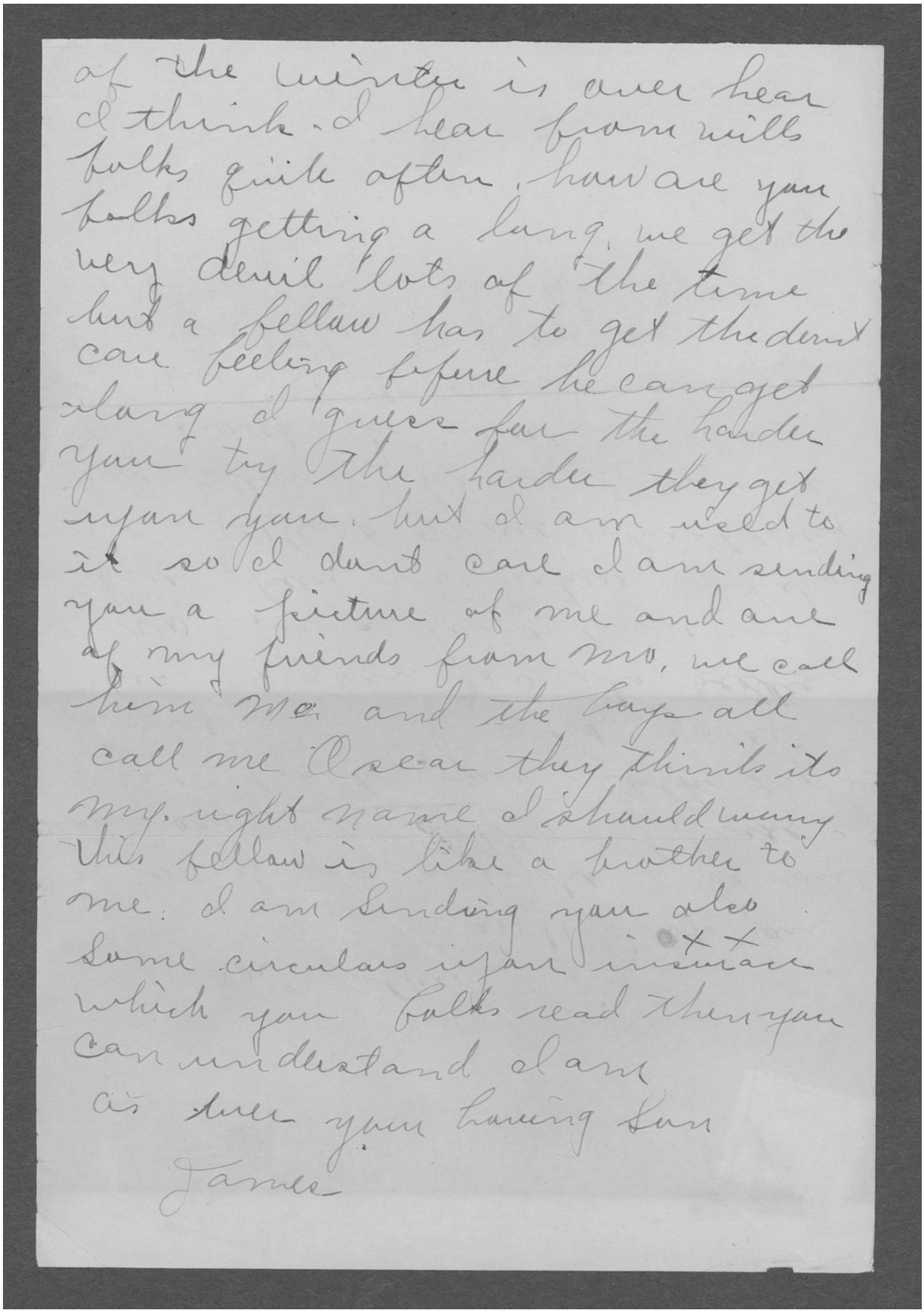
YMCA

Camp Sill Feb 15 1918

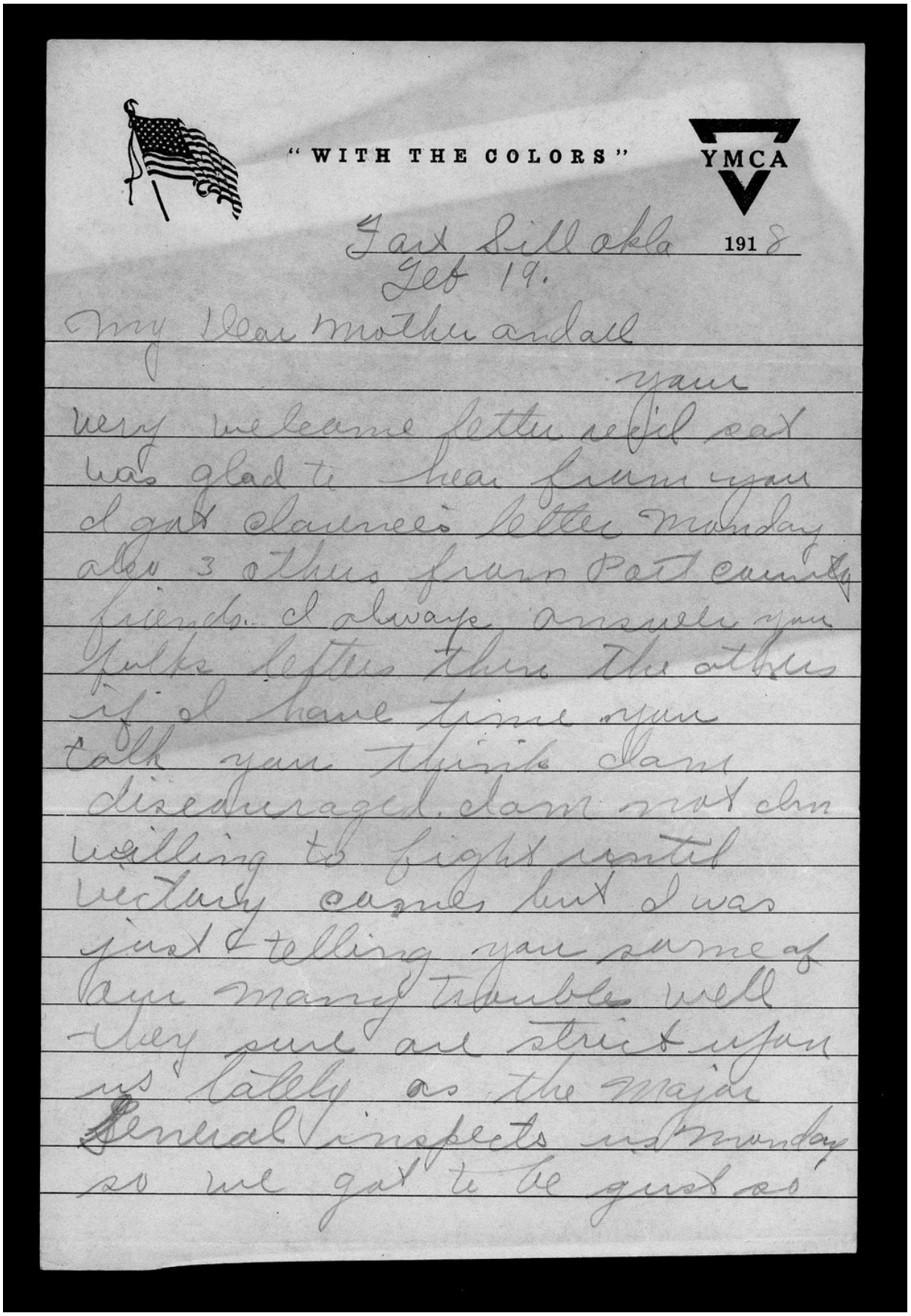
my dear Mother

will drop you a few lines tonight to let you know I'm well and hope this finds you folks the same. the Y.M.C.A. is open again so its better now. for a long time we have been on rations and they are getting more strict every day. seems like we even have to sweep the street in front of our tents every morning I hear the 353 regiment has left Funston for some where in New Jersey. I dont know when we go home but I think I will be home first days almost sure I will the most

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



of the winter is over hear
I think. I hear from mills
folks quite often, how are your
folks getting along, we get the
very devil lots of the time
but a fellow has to get the dust
can feeling before he can get
along I guess for the harder
you try the harder they get
upon you. but I am used to
it so I dont care I am sending
you a picture of me and one
of my friends from mo. we call
him Mo. and the boys all
call me Oscar they think its
my right name I should marry
this fellow is like a brother to
me. I am sending you also
some circulars upon insurance
which your folks read then you
can understand I am
as ever your loving son
James



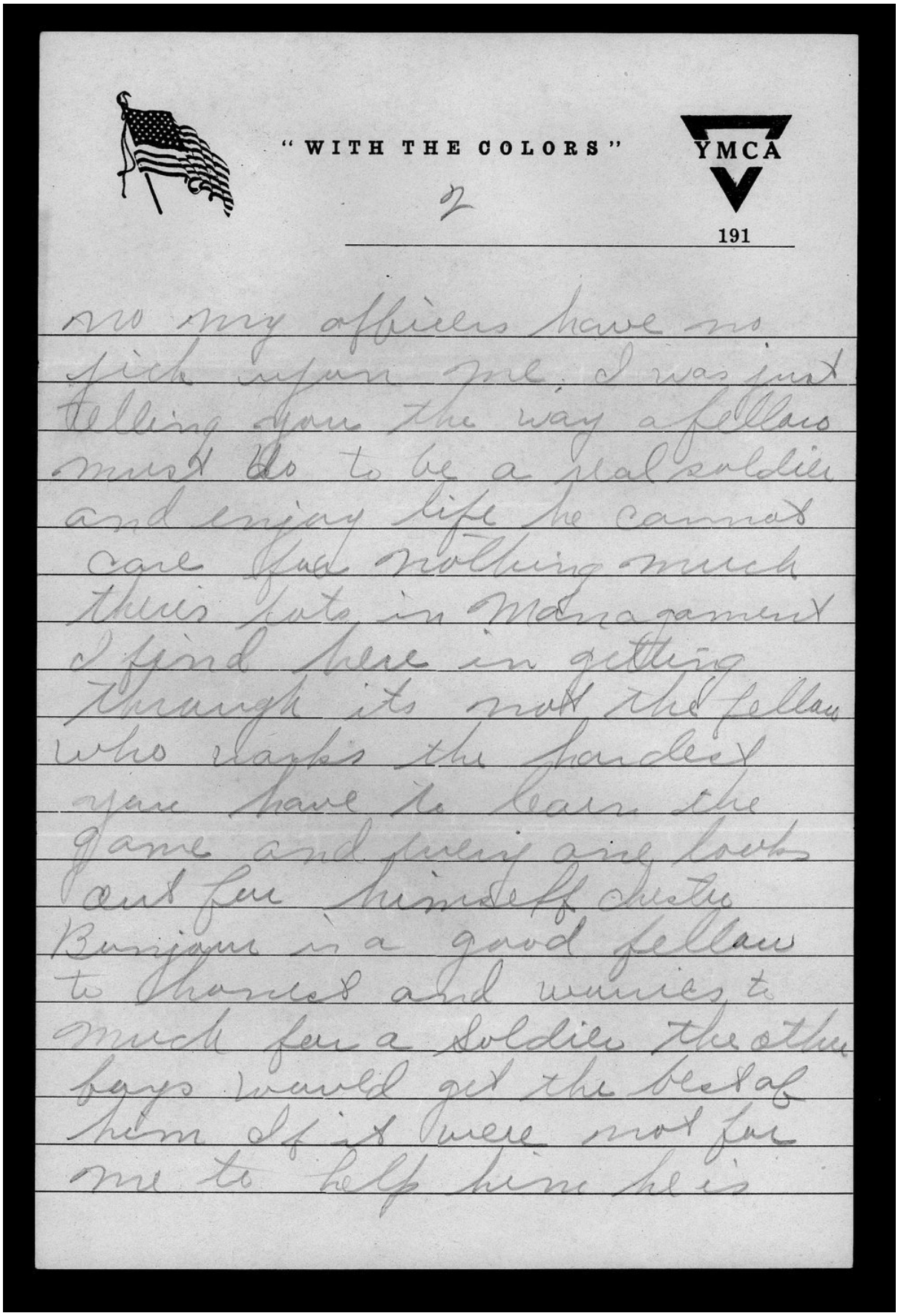
"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

Camp Sill Okla 1918
Feb 19.

My Dear Mother and all

your very welcome letter reached me was glad to hear from you I got Clarence's letter Monday also 3 others from Port county friends. I always answer you folks letters then the others if I have time when you talk you think I am discouraged. I am not I am willing to fight until victory comes but I was just telling you some of my many troubles well they are strict upon us tally as the major General inspects us Monday so we got to be just as

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



"WITH THE COLORS"

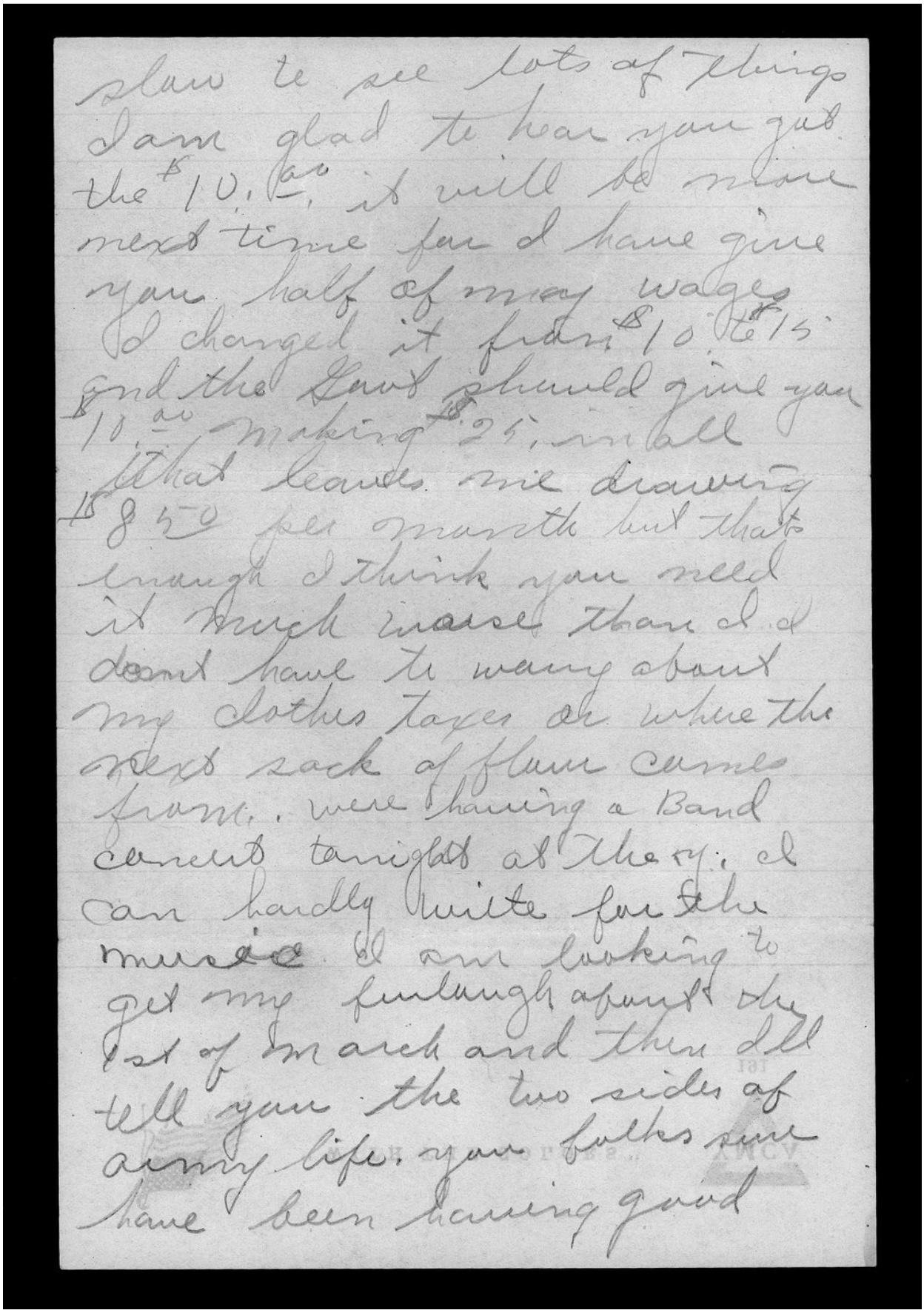
YMCA

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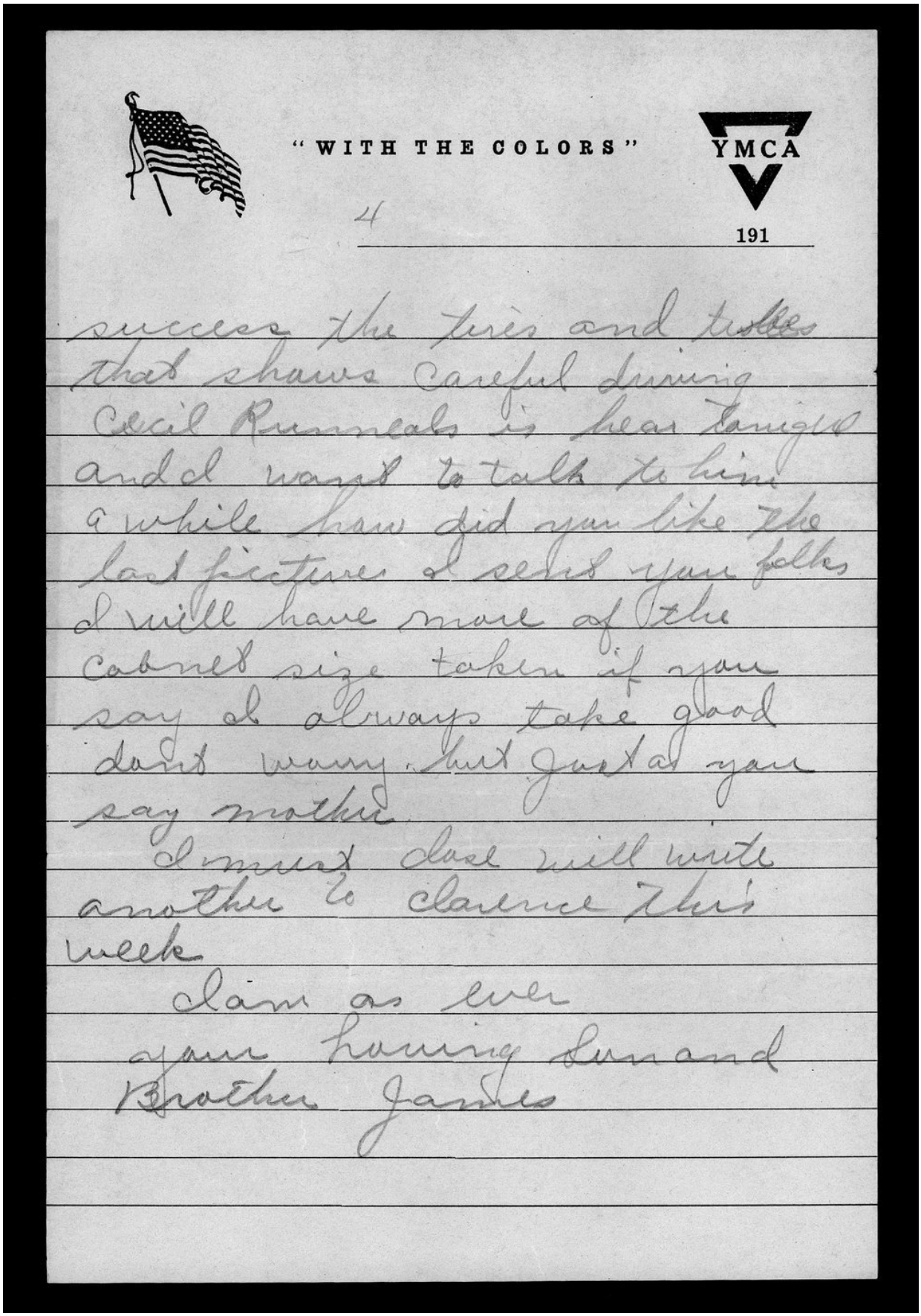
no my officers have no
pick upon me. I was just
telling you the way a fellow
must do to be a real soldier
and enjoy life he cannot
care for nothing much
this lets in Management
I find here in getting
through its not the fellow
who rapis the hardest
you have to learn the
game and fall in line
and for himself Justin
Bunjon is a good fellow
to Thanks and wunies to
much for a Soldier the other
boys would get the best of
him If it were not for
me to help him he is

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



slow to see lots of things
I am glad to hear you got
the $10.00 it will be more
next time for I have given
you half of my wages
I changed it for $10 & $15
and the Govt should give you
$10.00 making $25 in all
that leaves me drawing
$8.50 per month but that's
enough I think you need
it much more than I do
don't have to worry about
my clothes taxes or where the
next sack of flour comes
from. We're having a Band
concert tonight at the Y. I
can hardly wait for the
music I am looking to
get my furlough about the
1st of March and then I'll
tell you the two sides of
army life. you folks sure
have been having good

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



"WITH THE COLORS" YMCA

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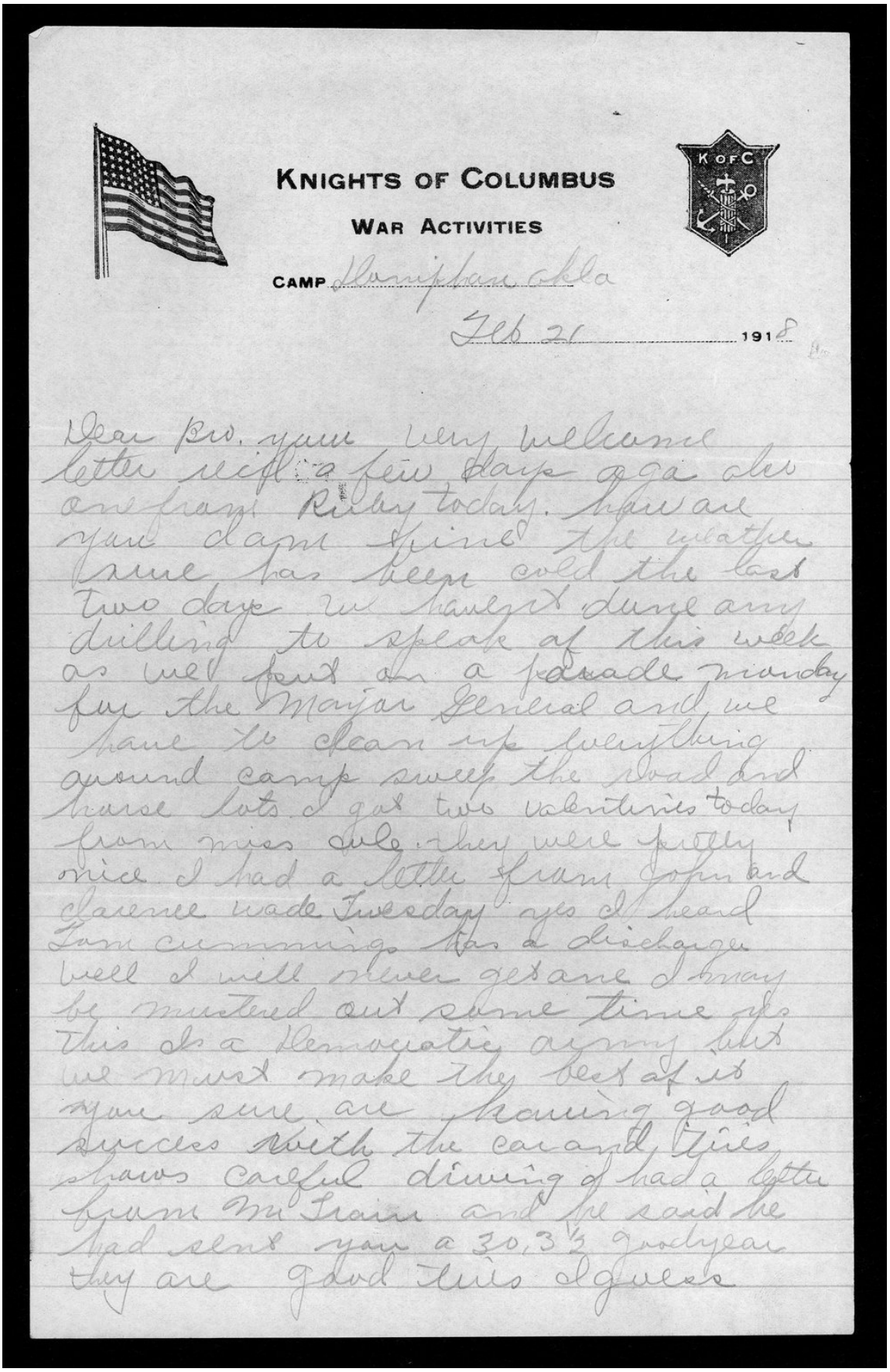
191

success the ties and tubes that shows careful driving Cecil Runnels is hear tonight and I want to talk to him a while how did you like the last picture I sent you folks I will have more of the cabnet size taken if you say I always take good care not worry. but just as you say mother.

I must close will write another to Clarence this week

Love as ever
your loving Son and
Brother James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

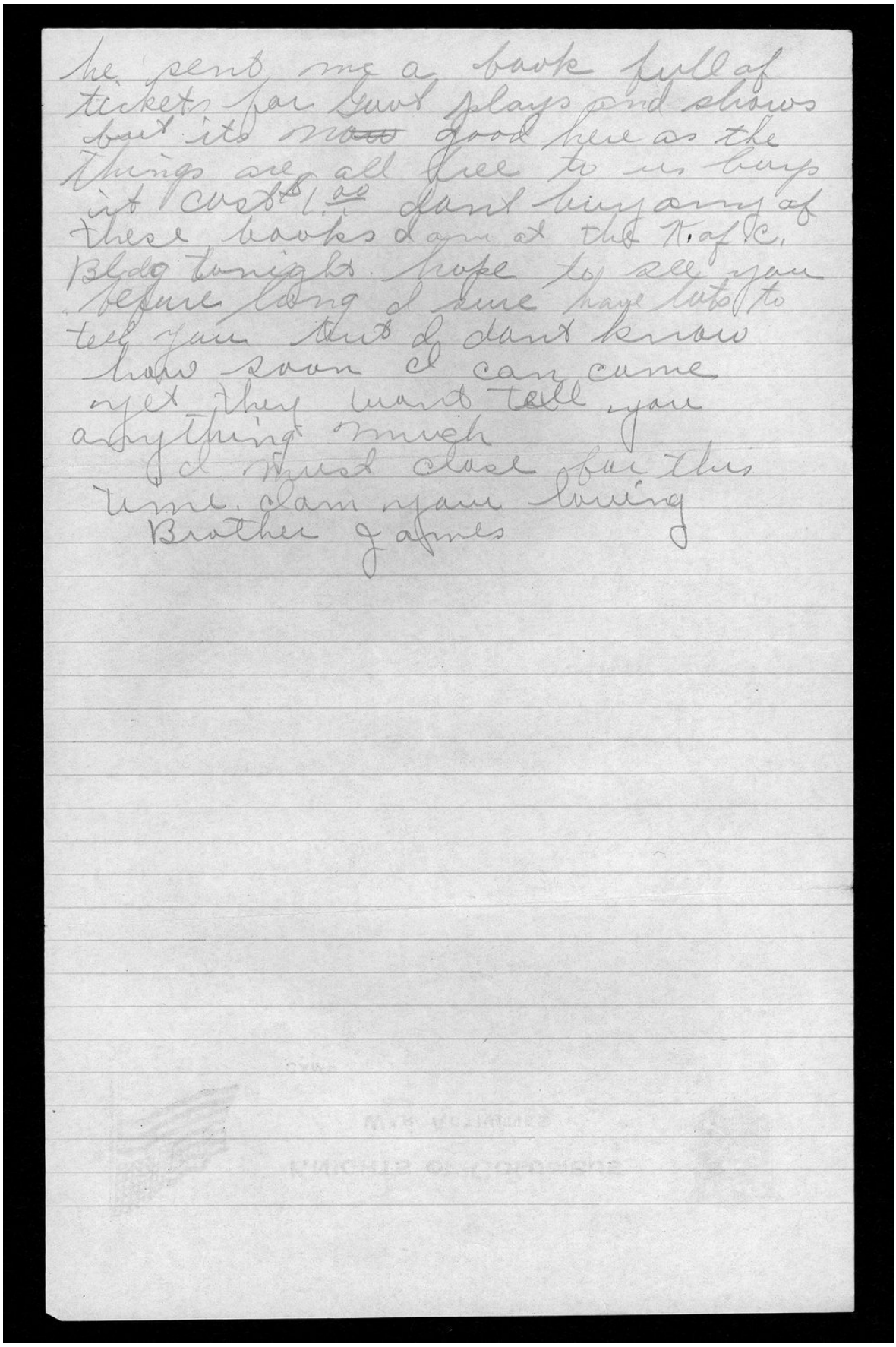
WAR ACTIVITIES

CAMP Hanighan Okla

Feb 21 1918

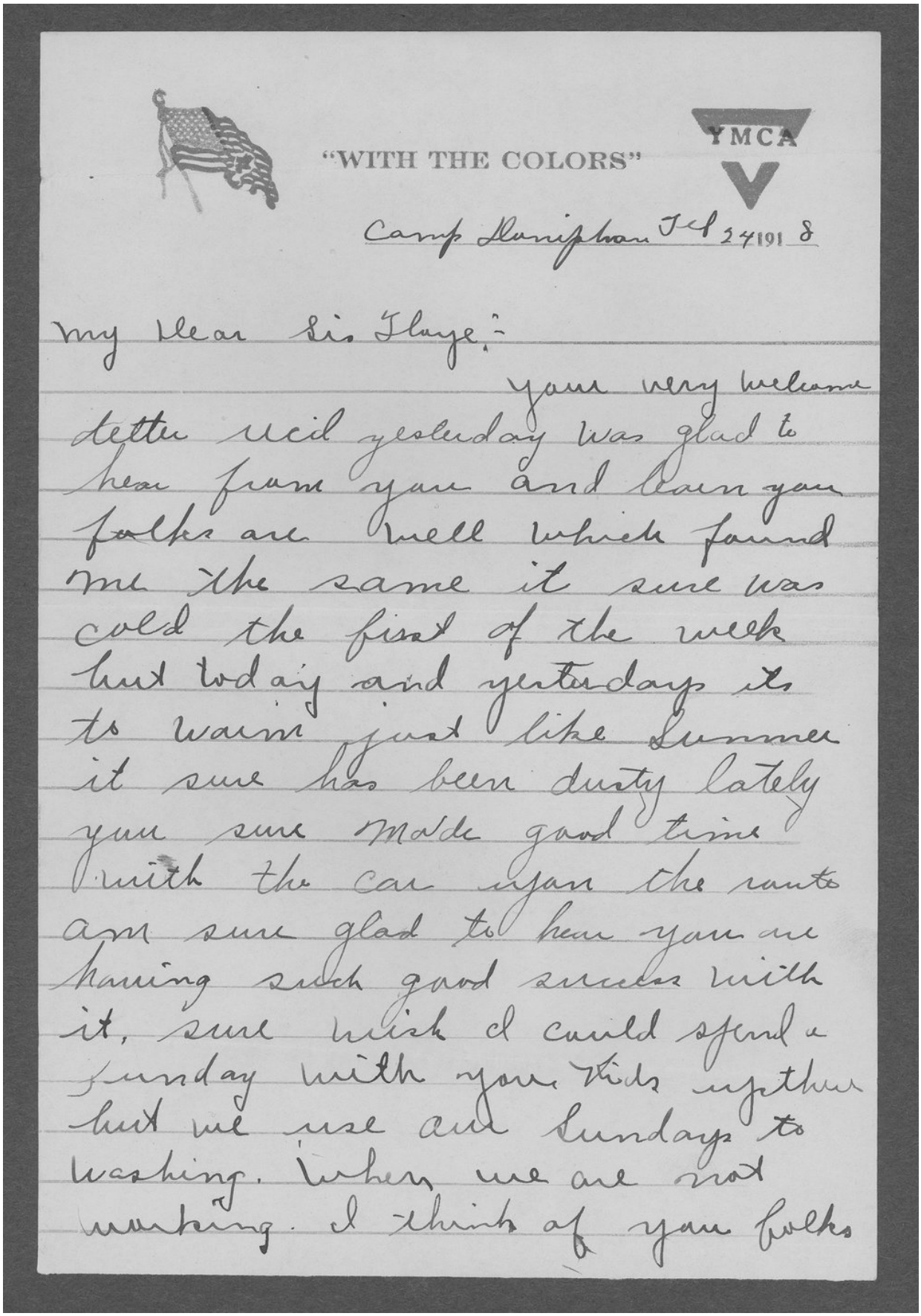
Dear Bro. your very welcome letter recd a few days ago also one from Ruby today. Glad you and yours kept spine the weather here has been cold the last two days we haven't done any drilling to speak of this week as we put in a parade monday for the Major General and we have to clean up everything around camp sweep the road and horse lots I got two valentines today from miss Lula they were pretty nice I had a letter from John and Clarence wade Tuesday yes I heard Tom cummings has a discharge well I will never get one I may be mustered out some time yes this is a Democratic army but we must make the best of it you sure are showing good success with the car and tires shaws careful driving I had a letter from Mr Train and he said he had sent you a 30, 3½ goodyear they are good tires I guess

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



he sent me a book full of tickets for Grand plays and shows but its good here as the things are all free to us boys it cost 1.00 dont buy any of these books down at the Y. of C. Bldg tonight. hope to see you before long I have lots to tell you but I dont know how soon I can come yet they wont tell you anything much
I must close for this time. I am your loving
Brother James

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



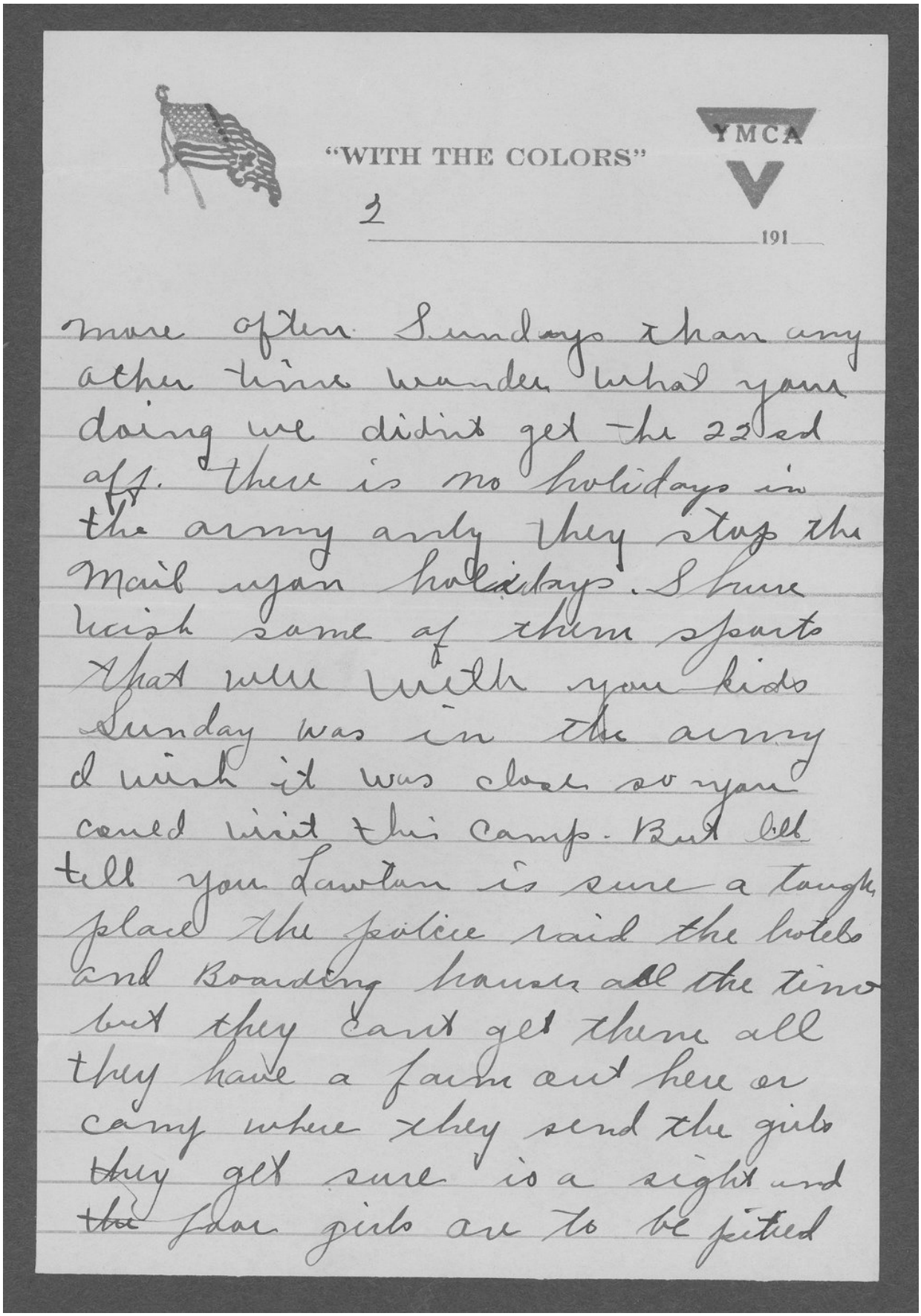
"WITH THE COLORS"

YMCA

Camp Hancock Jct 2 1918

My Dear Sis Flaye:-

Your very welcome letter recd yesterday was glad to hear from you and learn you folks are well which found me the same it sure was cold the first of the week but today and yesterdays its to warm just like Summer it sure has been dusty lately you sure made good time with the car when the runs are sure glad to hear you are having such good success with it, sure wish I could spend a Sunday with your kids mother but we use are Sundays to washing. When we are not working. I think of your folks



"WITH THE COLORS"

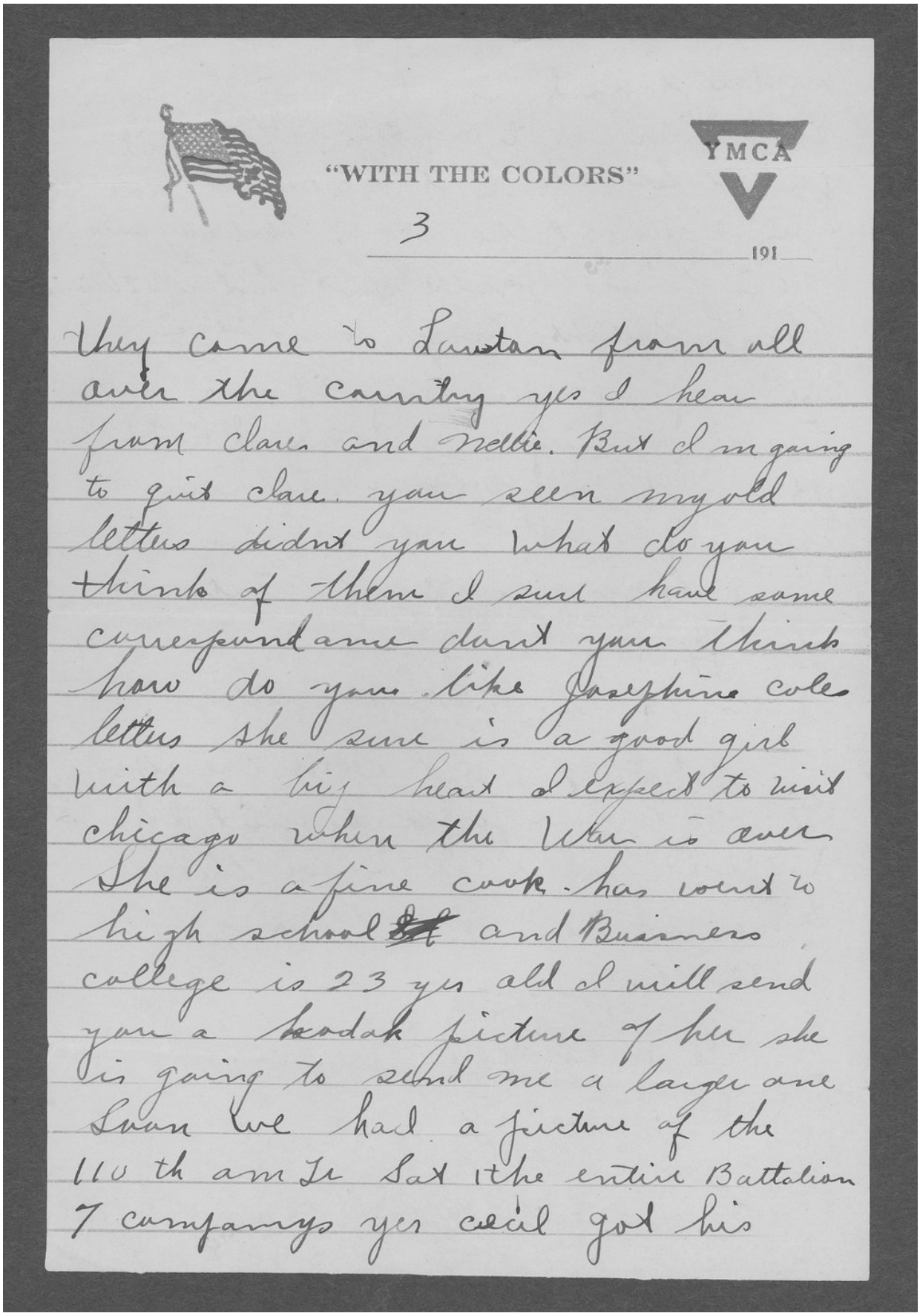
YMCA

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more often Sundays than any
other time wonder what your
doing we didint get the 22nd
off. there is no holidays in
the army only they stop the
Mail ugan holidays. I sure
wish some of them sports
that will with you kids
Sunday was in the army
I wish it was close so you
coued visit this camp. But ill
tell you Lawton is sure a tough
place the police raid the hotels
and Boarding houses all the time
but they cant get them all
they have a farm out here or
camp where they send the girls
they get sure is a sight and
the poor girls are to be pitied

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



"WITH THE COLORS"

YMCA

3

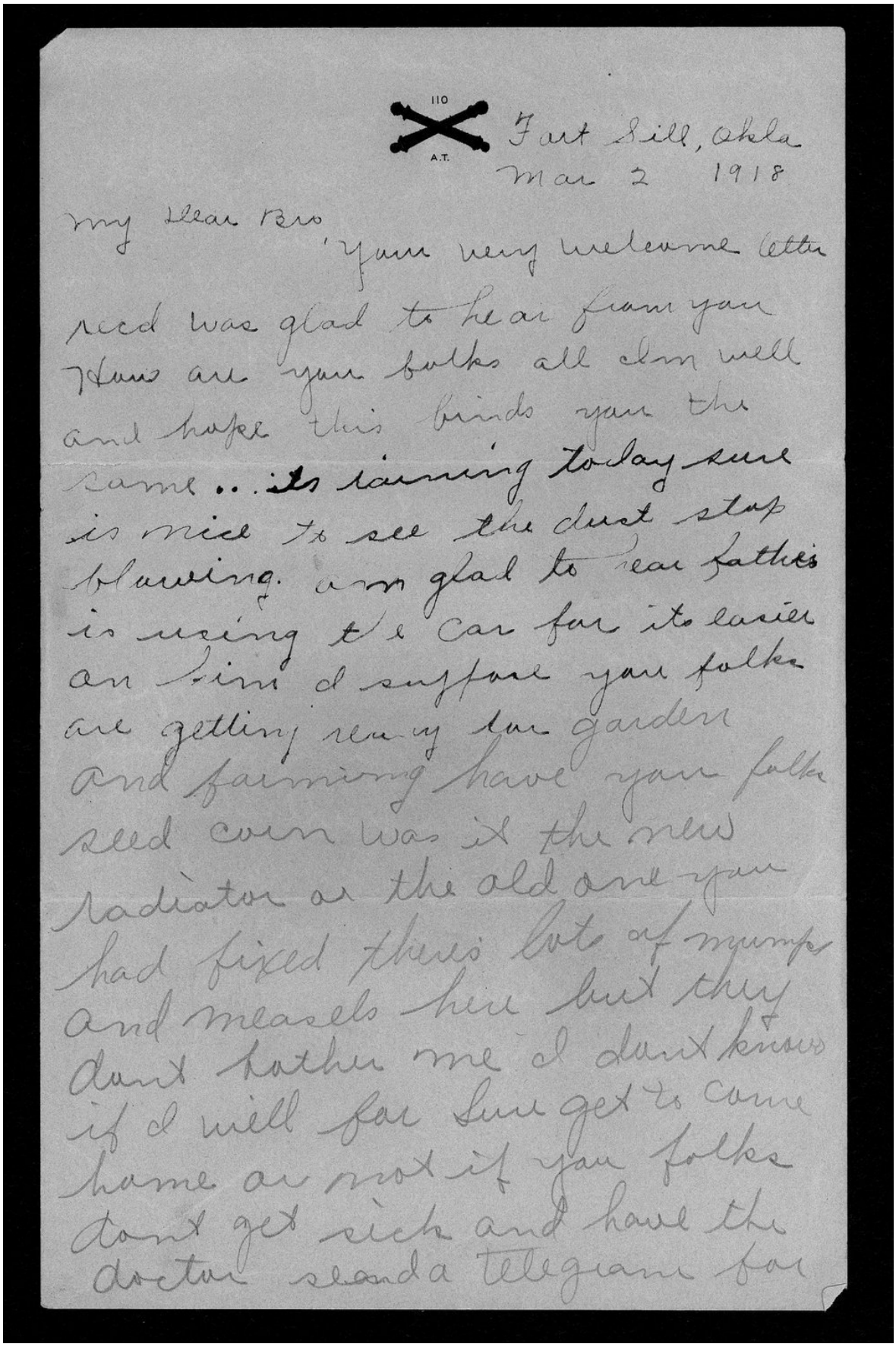
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they came to Lawton from all over the country yes I hear from Clare and Nellie. But I m going to quit Clare. you seen my old letters didnt you what do you think of them I sure have some correspondance dont you think how do you like Josephine Cole letters she sure is a good girl with a big heart I expect to visit chicago when the War is over She is a fine cook. has went to high school ~~at~~ and Business college is 23 yrs old I will send you a kodak picture of her she is going to send me a larger one Soon we had a picture of the 110 th and It Sat 1the entire Battalion 7 companys yes Cecil got his

furlough and is here again I
see him quite often. how did
you like the last picture I sent
you I sure take good. that guy with
me is from mo. The Govt. had all their
plans bought long ago I guess
are any of the boys from Pott
county coming in soon I will
get my furlough the 1st of may
so they told me last night if
every thing goes alright that not
far off. was sure glad to hear your
folks got the allotment. did you
ever get any recipt from the american
life insurance co. as per mit I have
well I must close for this
time as ever your loving
Brother James

tell Katie hello for me
when you see her

All right



110
A.T.

Fort Sill, Okla
Mar 2 1918

my dear Bro

Your very welcome letter
reed was glad to hear from you
Hows are your folks all doo well
and hope this finds you the
same ... its raining today sure
is nice to see the dust stop
blowing. am glad to hear father
is using the car for its easier
on him I suppose your folks
are getting ready for garden
and farming have you folks
seed corn was it the new
radiator or the old one you
had fixed there's lots of mumps
and measels here but they
dont bother me I dont know
if I will for sure get to come
home or not if you folks
dont get sick and have the
doctor send a telegram for